

TEXTILE EXHIBIT AT THE MUSEUM OF THE DECATUR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The textile exhibit at the Museum, 222 E. Franklin Street, shows styles of clothing and fabric accessories for the home, including quilts, from about 1820 to 1930. During the month of April volunteer docents will be at the Museum on Saturday from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. and on Sunday from 1 to 4 P.M. to explain the collection to visitors. There is no charge to visit the Museum, and we hope you will take this opportunity to see how our ancestors lived and what they wore. Besides the textile exhibit, there are many interesting items in the collection, including memorabilia from World Wars I and II, children's toys, and antique furniture.

The Decatur County Historical Society received an Indiana Heritage Grant from the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Humanities Council to catalog the textile collection of the Museum. That project began June 1999 and will end May 2000. James Waechter, Curator of the Wayne County Historical Museum in Richmond, IN, and his assistant, Jan Livingston, Curator of Textiles at the Museum, provided valuable assistance to us in dating some items in the collection, and they helped assess their historical value to the Museum and community.

We purchased Past Perfect Museum software to record items in the collection. This software is installed in the Museum's computer and will be used for future cataloguing projects. Several people have worked to sew labels on the textiles, which are then assigned numbers corresponding to their computer record. We are most grateful for the time spent by these volunteers.

The Museum has been called "the best-kept secret in Decatur County." We hope you will spread the word about this excellent collection and encourage people to visit during the exhibit.

THE BULLETIN

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DECATUR COUNTY

Vol. 7 No 9

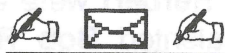
January 2000

Greensburg, Indiana

Next Meeting - 38th annual dinner
When ----- February 19, 2000
Time ----- 6 p.m.
Place ----- Presbyterian Church
Price ----- \$6.50
Speaker ----- Jeff Kuehl

RESERVATION BY

FEBRUARY 13, 2000



Please send your reservations and money for the dinner to **Kathryn Bailey**, P.O. Box 163, Greensburg, IN 47240 by February 13, 2000.

JEFF KUEHL WILL BRING OUR BELOVED POET **JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY** TO LIFE FOR US.

HE PORTRAYED THE GREAT HOOSIER POET THIS PAST FALL, INSIDE THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF INDIANAPOLIS AT THE LILLY THEATRE. HE WILL BRING "THE CHILDREN'S POET" TO LIFE FOR US AT THIS MEETING.

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PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND RESERVATIONS THE CHECKS IN ADVANCE. IT IS CONFUSING AND DEFINITELY TIME CONSUMING WHEN WE WAIT TO PAY AT THE DOOR.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Sara Jean Bozeman
E.E. & Lois Laskowski
Sally Names, Bend, Orgeon
Craig & Julie Springmier, Ohio
Robert & Rita Simmonds

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

DUDLEY & BONITA MYERS

DONATIONS:

SALLY ZO LLER MOULTON
MARY MARGARET CHRISTMAN
VIRGINIA M. CARNEY
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BETH BEARD
PAUL & JESSIE HAMPTON
GEORGE MORGAN
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PHYLLIS DOERFLINGER
WILMA SCHREIBER
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS
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In this issue of **The Bulletin** you will find a good deal contributed by members. I think you will discover that it makes a more interesting Bulletin when members contribute. My thanks to all of you who have sent material. If I haven't used your's yet I will in the future. It depends on the room available at the time. I think readers prefer a story that has something of a local connection but many, the story of the move on page 5 for example, could easily apply to anyone who made a move of 200 plus miles with livestock in those days. *Pat*

MUSEUM NEWS

by DIANA SPRINGMIER

This past fall, the museum's most well-attended exhibit to date was viewed throughout the first floor parlors and dining room. Forty-two 19th century coverlids were on loan from Greensburg and Decatur County heirs and collectors of these lovingly well-preserved treasures. The majority were the work of Scottish immigrant, William Craig Sr., who purchased a farm southeast of Greensburg in 1842, and his sons Wm. Jr. and James, who were taught the art of Scottish Jacquard weaving as they grew up on the family farm. Many other Indiana weavers' colorful patterns were also on loan. The entire display was an education, depicting life in the mid-nineteenth century, for each coverlid had a story to tell, shared by its owner with the museum committee and with friends visiting the display. More coverlids than the museum committee could have envisioned when planning the project were taken from storage and shared with the committee and community. More than one museum visitor at the setup display, returned home and carried back their ancestor's coverlid to tell their family story of inheriting this prized bed covering.

In November the museum provided the ideal Victorian setting for the Give-Un-Take Garden Club's evening gala for 150 invited guests. The honored guests arriving in a horse drawn carriage added to the ambiance of the 18th century evening. The museum was transformed into a Victorian Christmas wonderland with each first floor room designed and filled with hand-crafted ornaments and arrangements for guests to purchase before and after the Victorian supper at the nearby Presbyterian Church. The proceeds from the evening benefited the Decatur County Library Gardens and other garden club civic projects.

After a thorough cleaning and moving back of furniture by industrious but weary garden club members the museum was soon

ready for its Christmas open house with **Karen Fenley's** familiar Williamsburg holiday swags and wreath, old-fashioned cedar tree from **Reed and Ruth Schuster's** woods which **Roger Cash** cut and transported to the museum under wife **Ruth** and her friend **Ginny Garvey's** guidance. After **Russell Wilhoit** set up the tree, Ruth, Ginny, and **Helen Hamilton** spent two evenings decorating for the event, and Reed joined the committee to design the parlor mantle and dining room centerpiece. **Nancy Reynolds** and **Jere Sturges** added cranberry arrangements. **Gladys and Bill Pike's** bread pudding with a rich warm sauce, cranberry punch and cookies donated by Society members, **Doris Vanderbur, Beth Miller, Mindy, Jane and Margaret Herbert** were enjoyed by the guests. Multi-talented **Bob Rooker** played seasonal music on his trumpet, accompanied by **Lois Badgley**, and then sang carols for an audience of appreciative guests while **George Morgan** who had earlier donated a few hours putting the piano in working order delighted those present with his spirited playing of the south parlor's baby grand. This festive ambiance would turn any too-busy Scrooge into proclaiming the holiday spirit.

In the midst of those preparing for the fall and winter activities. **Alice Rust**, primary researcher, and her assistant **Jane Keith** were involved with the cataloguing of the museum's textiles through an Indiana Heritage Research Grant, a program of the Indiana Humanities Council and the Indiana Historical Society. A Greensburg High School class of family living students sewed labels on the 1800's clothing in the upstairs bedroom as garden club ladies down the hall worked on crafts so the museum was well-served by all ages and interests.

To display these costumes, the museum now has ten newly constructed mannequins thanks to the efforts of several ladies and one gentleman.

continued on page 3

Helen Hamilton was given the pattern to make the mannequins from the Wayne County Museum and convinced the Museum Committee that they needed them to display some of the articles of clothing and also for future special displays. **Steve Hamilton** made the basic body part; Jane Keith and **Janet Power** sewed the felt part of the body, and **Charity Mitchell** stuffed the mannequins. Money donated for the mannequins came from society members **Mary Narwold**, **Amanda Guthrie Mitchell**, and **Mary Margaret Christman**. The expertise and generosity of these folks is certainly appreciated. The next display will have the mannequins wearing Society members and their ancestors' wedding gowns. This is an exhibit to look forward to in the spring.

A special thanks to **Van Batterton** and **Rheadawn Metz** who spent their quiet volunteer Sunday in a quite productive way. The museum was needing a cleaning after the coverlid display so with much dust visible; Rheadawn vacuumed and dusted the first floor as VAN moved furniture and covered the second floor. This was Rheadawn's first cleaning job in high heels. **Liz Reed** and sister **Polly McCreary**, volunteers also, dusted on another slow December Sunday. Ruth Cash was observed grading her high school French students' papers at the dining room table one Sunday. No grass grows under our volunteers' feet, and we remain open each weekend, April through December because of these dedicated individuals.

With everyone making New Year's resolutions, the display committee of **Ginny Garvey**, **Helen Hamilton** and **Ruth Cash** have resolved to offer the membership and the public the following displays this new year:

1st to mid-April	Wedding dresses (and accouterments)
mid-April to May	1999 Heritage Research Grant Textile Display
May-June	Military items/Memorial Day
July	Patriotic display
mid-August	Petroliana (a trip back to the old filling station)
September.....	Crazy quilts

And as always, if you have any items you are willing to loan us for these displays, just call Ginny (663-2132).

Diana Springmeyer

100 years ago

January 1900 - Two inspectors for rural mail were here Jan. 8, 1900 and recommended Route 1 to Spring Hill and Frank Rankin carrier and Charles B. Evans for Route 2 to Forest Hill. Service began April 1. This was the beginning of rural mail delivery in Decatur County.

February 1900 - Through the retirement of A. Reiter from Zoller, Minear and Reiter the firm name was changed to the S. P. Minear Co. Members of the firm were S. P. Minear and Louis Zoller. Shortly after the change of business Mr. Minear went to the eastern markets on a buying trip.

March 1900 - Miss Rosemary Ketchum had accepted a position as head of the dressmaking department of the S. P. Minear & Co. she had returned from New York where she had studied latest designs.

Camp Atterbury Museum Open

The Camp Atterbury Museum is now open on Saturdays and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m. The museum is still seeking artifacts and memorabilia. Also, visit the outside Veterans' Memorial including the World War II vintage troop train coach and the brick walk of honor in front of the reflecting pool at the Memorial. Forms to buy bricks are available at the museum. For further information contact: **C.W. 3 Myles W. Clayburn**, Camp Atterbury, Building 1, Edinburgh, IN 46124-1096, telephone: 812-526-1455.

Round Barn

Decatur County's solitary round barn on Moscow Road about 1 1/2 miles northwest of Greensburg has been revamped and it is being put to good use. The three story barn was built about 1914 by **Stauther Van Pleak** whose grandson **Van Batterton** has been so active in our society. The **Rev. Ira B. Morgan** bought it in 1919 and his son, **Ati Morgan**, lived there until his death. With Morgan's general upkeep, especially to the roof, the inside of the barn was kept in reasonably good condition.

The historic structure was constructed around a silo which was built first using 2x6s laid one on top of the other along with tar. Changes were later made when bricks and cement were put on the inside. The manger that was built around the 35 foot silo was designed so the mules and horses could feed on the contents of the silo. Around the outer perimeter on the inside of the barn is another manger for hay and fodder. A great watering trough was built in the outer perimeter. The barn could feed more than 100 mules at one time due to the circular design.

Rafters, a foot apart, taper to almost nothing towards the center where they are mortised into the silo. It was connected to a traditional rectangular barn that could hold 160 ton of hay in the mow. That barn was torn down in November 1999 because of structural problems.

The barn was built for mules and horses when those animals were in great demand. They would be kept here until they were shipped to other places, especially to the U.S. Army which used many mules in those days, and also to the west where many were used as pack animals.

Richard Reed began restoring the round barn in late summer of 1998 and it took one year to restore it to mint condition. It will be used for a learning center for children. They will be able to tour the inside of the barn where they can learn about agriculture, local history and the significance of the structure in our area. In addition, it will be available for clubs meetings and serve as a unique locale for meetings and special occasions.

The round barn is pictured on the cover of the new book "Decatur County Interim Report" about architecture in our county. It was also the subject of a feature in the Columbus Republic.

Van Batterton was too young when the barn was being constructed to remember anything about that time. He does remember a story about his Grandfather Pleak that was especially remembered by family members. The story follows below:

Grandfather Pleak *by Van Batterton*

"During the Civil War my Grandfather Pleak was about 7 or 8 years old. About the age when children are good at telling the family secrets. An Army officer was at the Pleak farm inspecting some mules that were for sale. As part of the inspection the officer was going over a mule's mouth quite carefully. All of you horse traders know that the age of mules and horses can be determined by the number and appearance of their teeth.

During the discussion about the mule's teeth my grandfather piped up, 'Dad, is that the mule you knocked the tooth out of?' To the officer doing the buying this was a question of some importance.

I do not know the out-come of the question, but Grandfather was sent to the house until the mule selling was all over. Grandfather did say that many of the large old brick homes in the county were built with money made selling mules to the Army.

My friend never failed! I finally conceded.
He tried to do nothing - and always succeeded.
from the pen of our friendly yet unnamed member poet

Moving Day 60 Years Ago

from an article in Billings AGRI News by Floyd Robinson, Malta, Mont.

Moving day isn't easy even with the moving company doing most of the work. Imagine moving 2,400 head of mature ewes, 1,200 yearling ewes, 100 head of all-age cattle, and 40 head of horses? Member **Wayne Tomson** loaned the May 21, 1999 issue of the Billings, Montana AGRI News which carried a story by **Floyd Robinson** of Malta, Montana.

Floy Robinson's parents made a trip to the Miles City area of Montana to look for a new ranch location in February 1939. They purchased the Cross S Ranch on Mizpah Creek, 50 miles southeast of Miles City. Their old place was on his parent's homestead in Campbell County on Spring Creek, 25 miles south of the present town of Wright, Wyo., and north, not far from the Converse County line. It was approximately 200 miles between the two places.

They sold their old ranch and moved their livestock, 2,400 head of mature ewes, 1,200 yearling ewes, 100 head of all-age cattle, and 40 head of horses, and their belongings to the new location. Floyd was 18 years old and was to trail the mature sheep in the first trail herd in order to arrive before lambing began May 5. He drove a four-horse team loaded with cottonseed cake for the sheep and oats for the horses. Another man drove the team pulling the sheep wagon—their home for the trip,

They took six head of saddle horses to have horses to ride for lambing. Four of those horses were tied to the teams, and two were led behind Floyd's wagon. They left the ranch on Spring Creek March 28, 1939. The second day out, there was a snow storm that lasted most of the day but not bad enough to hold them up.

There was a stock trail - lands set aside for the movement of livestock to market or change of pasture. These lands were not fenced separately, but the rancher in whose pasture they were located used them in consideration for allowing trail herds to go through his pastures.

The evening of the fourth day, a hind wheel on the sheep wagon broke down. After taking the tongue off the sheep wagon to use as a pry pole, they put sacks of cake under the axle to level the wagon. Floyd rode back to the ranch to let his Dad know about the break down. He wasn't at home having taken a pickup load of goods to the new ranch.

His father came the next day and took the broken wheel to Gillette, Wyo. for repairs, holding them up for three days. They camped at the Burlington Lake north of Gillette, got the brand inspections and paperwork necessary for the rest of the trip and replenished the cake for the sheep and oats for the horses. From Gillette to Weston, the road was under construction, and they followed the road north through Powder River County into Custer County. The road right-of way was wide enough to graze the sheep on so they were in a lane that distance of the trip.

When they got to the Montana/Wyoming line, they were no longer feeding the sheep cottonseed cake. They camped on the Little Powder Road about four miles south of Biddle the first night in Montana. At Broadus they crossed on the old bridge that came into the north side of Broadus. Immediately after crossing the Powder River, they turned north and went out of Broadus on the road between Powder River and Mizpah.

On the third day out of Broadus, they crossed the Mizpah Creek and followed the county road to the destination, about 50 miles southeast of Miles City on Mizpah Creek. Floyd got to the Cross S the afternoon of April 25, so the entire trip for the sheep was 29 days. He turned 19 on April 20.

There were three trips made with livestock - two with sheep and one with the cattle and horses. Floyd's three brothers came with the cattle and horses. He doesn't know how many trips his Dad made with the pickup nor how many Mother made with the car. There were also several trips made with loads of machinery and other goods too large to fit in the car or pickup.

His brother Don was 12 at the time and the only survivor other than Floyd. He wrote, ".Being the youngest I got the privilege of sleeping on the floor. After a day or two, it didn't matter - I can still remember being good and tired! I am proud of coming to Montana on horseback!"

Dr. John W. Gilchrist

has donated two three-ring binders to the society. One binder shows pictures and maps and relates the story about a trip he took with his family in 1922 when John was 4 years old. On the trip were his parents Dr. A.E. and Glenn Gilchrist, his mother's parents, John and Ida Mae Montanye, his sister Rena Mae (Gilchrist) Powell, and his father's cousin John and Jessie Craig, and children Sarah, Calvin and Junior. Also included is the same trip his family took many years later.

The second binder is family history. John's ancestors include William Craig, the weaver of many of the coverlets that visitors and members enjoyed at the museum not long ago and Dr. A.E. Gilchrist who many will remember was a dentist here. Members of the society are encouraged to record their family histories and personal memories and John's books serve as an excellent example. You may view these books at the museum.

Frances Metz

Each year for Christmas. Frances gives eight families and/or individuals their membership to the society. This is a great idea for all of us to give for any occasion during the year.

Sally Zoller Moulton

A note (and donation) was received from member Sally Zoller Moulton

"I love the Bulletin, keep up the good work! Wish it might be compiled and printed in book form, especially earlier decades. New textile project sounds great. Good luck!"

From six members with a guess about the identity of the "mystery poet:"

1. "I don't believe there is a poet. You're making them up yourself!"
2. "**Jane Brown** is the mystery poet. She has a sense of humor and can write."
3. "I know who the poet is. Anybody who knows him very well knows it but I'm not going to tell because I enjoy seeing some of his witticisms in The Bulletin."
4. "**Van Batterton** is the poet. It sounds like his sense of humor."
5. "**Bob Conwell** is my guess."
6. "It's **Charles Metz**." (Editor's note: All wrong, I wonder if # 3 even knows.)

Marceil Bostic

Marceil sent a splendid article that had appeared in The Shelbyville News, written by Kelley L. Simison, about Wilma and Norman Taylor of Morristown who wrote a book titled "This Train is Bound for Glory: The Story of America's Chapel Cars." It is the story of 13 railroad cars that helped take the gospel to the frontier. It is accurate account of how the cars were pulled on passenger and freight trains to more than 3,000 little railroad towns across the south and west from 1890 to the 1940s. These cars were especially influential in those towns that were without order, in other words they were wild and wide open. The cars and the ministry helped start churches and Sunday schools during those days. In the article, Wilma Taylor was quoted as saying, "Taking heaven on rails to hell-on-wheels towns was a high-tech way of preaching the gospel, way back then." The Taylors wrote the book from original letters and journals of the missionaries and chaplains who traveled on the cars. The book may be available at the Shelbyville Historical Society or contact the Grover Museum at 52 W. Broadway. This would probably make a most interesting program for our society in the future.

Bran Rolls

Mix 2 c. bran, 1 c. Pinnacle flour, 1/4 c. Orleans molasses, 1 3/4 c. sour milk, 1 egg, 1 tsp. soda.
Bake in slow oven. Mrs. Anna Allison from Omega Chapter Tri Kappa sorority 1913 cookbook.

Index to Children's Home Records Published

There is an excellent history of the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home in the latest newsletter of the Friends of the Indiana State Archives, Inc. The index to the Children's Home have been published and are available to researchers. The publication has information on the records available for the 10,000 children admitted to the home at Knightstown between 1867 and 1980. One of the compilers of the index includes Ruth Dorrel of the Indiana Historical Society and our county historian. Information about ordering a copy of the Index can be obtained by calling (800) IHS-1830.

City Bakery & Grocery (from 1865 The Greensburg Weekly Chronicle)

Jacob Bantz, Main St. opposite Moss House Bread and Cakes
every article is guaranteed to be PURE, FRESH and SWEET.
Parties, Pic Nics, & c., supplied on short notice and on reasonable terms.

Under "Harney's Hall," South-East corner of the square.
(That was where Huber's was and a tavern is now)

♥ Happy Valentine's Day! ♥

Our tomatoes are blighted
The beans are benighted
We haven't had lettuce since May.
But we have one crop
that just won't stop
We can't give zucchini away!
from the mystery poet

Marechal Pudding

One can grated pineapple, one cup powdered sugar, 3/4 box gelatin, 3 egg whites (well beaten), 1 pint whipped cream.

Dissolve gelatin in cup of cold water; let stand on warming oven. Add 2 Tbsp. lemon juice; put all together and keep in a cool place until served.

Mrs. Robert Woodfill, 1913



items
for

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NOTICE

Deadline

March 15, 2000
June 15, 2000
Sept. 15, 1999
Dec. 15, 1999

Date mailed

April 30, 2000
July 30, 2000
Oct. 30, 1999
Jan. 30, 2000



J & J King's on North side of Public Square
We keep a large stock of saddles, bridles, whips, harness, collars, spurs etc. Work made to order on short notice. All our work is warranted! Don't forget this place! July 25, 1865, GB Weekly Chronicle

If your dues are due please use this form to send them to the address below.

Historical Society of Decatur County, Inc.

P.O. Box 163 Greensburg, IN 47240

Due **January 1** of each year: **Membership:** single - \$10: **Couple** - \$15: **Contributing** - \$30



RENEWAL



NEW



GIFT OR DONATION

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF _____

COMMENTS _____

Jennifer McNealy

SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

President..... ~~Diana Springmier~~
(1188 E CR 100 N, Greensburg, Ph: 663-2997)
1st V. Pres. *Ruth Cash*..... ~~Russell Wilhoit~~
Rec. Sec..... Charity Mitchell
Cor. Sec. *Cathy*..... ~~Kathryn Bailey~~
Membership Sec..... Rheadawn Metz
Treas..... Dan Anderson

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Carol McNeely
Ed Howard
Diana S.
~~Tony Owens~~ 2000
~~Gene McCoy~~ 2000
Jennifer McNealy 2001
Ruth Cash 2001
Dan Anderson 1999
~~John Westhafer~~ 1999

Editor of Bulletin

Pat Smith, 122 W. Sheridan,
Greensburg, In 47240

County Historian

Ruth Dorrel, 407 N. Webster,
St. Paul, IN 47272

Museum committee chairman - Diana Springmier
Museum display - Ginny Garvey and Ruth Cash
Museum volunteers - Helen Hamilton (663-8323)
Program committee - Joe Westhafer, Ruth Dorrel,
Jennifer McNealy and Margaret Herbert
Finance committee - Dan Anderson, Tony Owens,
Paul Pank and Bud Keith
Membership committee - Rheadawn Metz, Herb
Scheidler and Frances Metz

MUSEUM CURATOR

~~Russell Wilhoit~~

663-8290

SOCIETY'S AGENT

William H. Robbins

COUNTY GENEALOGISTS

Rosalie Robbins, 402 S. Poplar, Greensburg, IN 47240
Irene Kreiger, 23184 Pocket Rd., Batesville, IN 47006
Russell Wilhoit, 328 N. Jackson, Greensburg, IN 47240
Ruth Dorrel, 407 N Webster, St. Paul, IN 47272

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
DECATUR COUNTY, INC.
P.O. BOX 163
GREENSBURG, IN 47240

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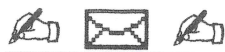
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In November the museum provided the ideal Victorian setting for the Give-Un-Take Garden Club's evening gala for 150 invited guests. The honored guests arriving in a horse drawn carriage added to the ambiance of the 18th century evening. The museum was transformed into a Victorian Christmas wonderland with each first floor room designed and filled with hand-crafted ornaments and arrangements for guests to purchase before and after the Victorian supper at the nearby Presbyterian Church. The proceeds from the evening benefited the Decatur County Library Gardens and other garden club civic projects.

After a thorough cleaning and moving back of furniture by industrious but weary garden club members the museum was soon

ready for its Christmas open house with **Karen Fenley's** familiar Williamsburg holiday swags and wreath, old-fashioned cedar tree from **Reed and Ruth Schuster's** woods which **Roger Cash** cut and transported to the museum under wife **Ruth** and her friend **Ginny Garvey's** guidance. After **Russell Wilhoit** set up the tree, Ruth, Ginny, and **Helen Hamilton** spent two evenings decorating for the event, and Reed joined the committee to design the parlor mantle and dining room centerpiece. **Nancy Reynolds** and **Jere Sturges** added cranberry arrangements. **Gladys and Bill Pike's** bread pudding with a rich warm sauce, cranberry punch and cookies donated by Society members, **Doris Vanderbur, Beth Miller, Mindy, Jane and Margaret Herbert** were enjoyed by the guests. Multi-talented **Bob Rooker** played seasonal music on his trumpet, accompanied by **Lois Badgley**, and then sang carols for an audience of appreciative guests while **George Morgan** who had earlier donated a few hours putting the piano in working order delighted those present with his spirited playing of the south parlor's baby grand. This festive ambiance would turn any too-busy Scrooge into proclaiming the holiday spirit.

In the midst of those preparing for the fall and winter activities. **Alice Rust**, primary researcher, and her assistant **Jane Keith** were involved with the cataloguing of the museum's textiles through an Indiana Heritage Research Grant, a program of the Indiana Humanities Council and the Indiana Historical Society. A Greensburg High School class of family living students sewed labels on the 1800's clothing in the upstairs bedroom as garden club ladies down the hall worked on crafts so the museum was well-served by all ages and interests.

To display these costumes, the museum now has ten newly constructed mannequins thanks to the efforts of several ladies and one gentleman.

continued on page 3

Helen Hamilton was given the pattern to make the mannequins from the Wayne County Museum and convinced the Museum Committee that they needed them to display some of the articles of clothing and also for future special displays. **Steve Hamilton** made the basic body part; Jane Keith and **Janet Power** sewed the felt part of the body, and **Charity Mitchell** stuffed the mannequins. Money donated for the mannequins came from society members **Mary Narwold**, **Amanda Guthrie Mitchell**, and **Mary Margaret Christman**. The expertise and generosity of these folks is certainly appreciated. The next display will have the mannequins wearing Society members and their ancestors' wedding gowns. This is an exhibit to look forward to in the spring.

A special thanks to **Van Batterton** and **Rheadawn Metz** who spent their quiet volunteer Sunday in a quite productive way. The museum was needing a cleaning after the coverlid display so with much dust visible; Rheadawn vacuumed and dusted the first floor as VAN moved furniture and covered the second floor. This was Rheadawn's first cleaning job in high heels. **Liz Reed** and sister **Polly McCreary**, volunteers also, dusted on another slow December Sunday. Ruth Cash was observed grading her high school French students' papers at the dining room table one Sunday. No grass grows under our volunteers' feet, and we remain open each weekend, April through December because of these dedicated individuals.

With everyone making New Year's resolutions, the display committee of **Ginny Garvey**, **Helen Hamilton** and **Ruth Cash** have resolved to offer the membership and the public the following displays this new year:

1st to mid-AprilWedding dresses (and accouterments)
 mid-April to May1999 Heritage Research Grant Textile Display
 May-JuneMilitary items/Memorial Day
 JulyPatriotic display
 mid-AugustPetroliana (a trip back to the old filling station)
 September.....Crazy quilts

And as always, if you have any items you are willing to loan us for these displays, just call Ginny (663-2132).

Diana Springmier

100 years ago

January 1900 - Two inspectors for rural mail were here Jan. 8, 1900 and recommended Route 1 to Spring Hill and Frank Rankin carrier and Charles B. Evans for Route 2 to Forest Hill. Service began April 1. This was the beginning of rural mail delivery in Decatur County.

February 1900 - Through the retirement of A. Reiter from Zoller, Minear and Reiter the firm name was changed to the S. P. Minear Co. Members of the firm were S. P. Minear and Louis Zoller. Shortly after the change of business Mr. Minear went to the eastern markets on a buying trip.

March 1900 - Miss Rosemary Ketchum had accepted a position as head of the dressmaking department of the S. P. Minear & Co. she had returned from New York where she had studied latest designs.

Camp Atterbury Museum Open

The Camp Atterbury Museum is now open on Saturdays and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m. The museum is still seeking artifacts and memorabilia. Also, visit the outside Veterans' Memorial including the World War II vintage troop train coach and the brick walk of honor in front of the reflecting pool at the Memorial. Forms to buy bricks are available at the museum. For further information contact: **C.W. 3 Myles W. Clayburn**, Camp Atterbury, Building 1, Edinburgh, IN 46124-1096, telephone: 812-526-1455.

Round Barn

Decatur County's solitary round barn on Moscow Road about 1 1/2 miles northwest of Greensburg has been revamped and it is being put to good use. The three story barn was built about 1914 by **Stauther Van Pleak** whose grandson **Van Batterton** has been so active in our society. The **Rev. Ira B. Morgan** bought it in 1919 and his son, **Ati Morgan**, lived there until his death. With Morgan's general upkeep, especially to the roof, the inside of the barn was kept in reasonably good condition.

The historic structure was constructed around a silo which was built first using 2x6s laid one on top of the other along with tar. Changes were later made when bricks and cement were put on the inside. The manger that was built around the 35 foot silo was designed so the mules and horses could feed on the contents of the silo. Around the outer perimeter on the inside of the barn is another manger for hay and fodder. A great watering trough was built in the outer perimeter. The barn could feed more than 100 mules at one time due to the circular design.

Rafters, a foot apart, taper to almost nothing towards the center where they are mortised into the silo. It was connected to a traditional rectangular barn that could hold 160 ton of hay in the mow. That barn was torn down in November 1999 because of structural problems.

The barn was built for mules and horses when those animals were in great demand. They would be kept here until they were shipped to other places, especially to the U.S. Army which used many mules in those days, and also to the west where many were used as pack animals.

Richard Reed began restoring the round barn in late summer of 1998 and it took one year to restore it to mint condition. It will be used for a learning center for children. They will be able to tour the inside of the barn where they can learn about agriculture, local history and the significance of the structure in our area. In addition, it will be available for clubs meetings and serve as a unique locale for meetings and special occasions.

The round barn is pictured on the cover of the new book "Decatur County Interim Report" about architecture in our county. It was also the subject of a feature in the Columbus Republic.

Van Batterton was too young when the barn was being constructed to remember anything about that time. He does remember a story about his Grandfather Pleak that was especially remembered by family members. The story follows below:

Grandfather Pleak *by Van Batterton*

"During the Civil War my Grandfather Pleak was about 7 or 8 years old. About the age when children are good at telling the family secrets. An Army officer was at the Pleak farm inspecting some mules that were for sale. As part of the inspection the officer was going over a mule's mouth quite carefully. All of you horse traders know that the age of mules and horses can be determined by the number and appearance of their teeth.

During the discussion about the mule's teeth my grandfather piped up, 'Dad, is that the mule you knocked the tooth out of?' To the officer doing the buying this was a question of some importance.

I do not know the out-come of the question, but Grandfather was sent to the house until the mule selling was all over. Grandfather did say that many of the large old brick homes in the county were built with money made selling mules to the Army.

My friend never failed! I finally conceded.
He tried to do nothing - and always succeeded.
*from the pen of our friendly **yet unnamed** member poet*

Moving Day 60 Years Ago

from an article in Billings AGRI News by Floyd Robinson, Malta, Mont.

Moving day isn't easy even with the moving company doing most of the work. Imagine moving 2,400 head of mature ewes, 1,200 yearling ewes, 100 head of all-age cattle, and 40 head of horses? Member **Wayne Tomson** loaned the May 21, 1999 issue of the Billings, Montana AGRI News which carried a story by **Floyd Robinson** of Malta, Montana.

Floyd Robinson's parents made a trip to the Miles City area of Montana to look for a new ranch location in February 1939. They purchased the Cross S Ranch on Mizpah Creek, 50 miles southeast of Miles City. Their old place was on his parent's homestead in Campbell County on Spring Creek, 25 miles south of the present town of Wright, Wyo., and north, not far from the Converse County line. It was approximately 200 miles between the two places.

They sold their old ranch and moved their livestock, 2,400 head of mature ewes, 1,200 yearling ewes, 100 head of all-age cattle, and 40 head of horses, and their belongings to the new location. Floyd was 18 years old and was to trail the mature sheep in the first trail herd in order to arrive before lambing began May 5. He drove a four-horse team loaded with cottonseed cake for the sheep and oats for the horses. Another man drove the team pulling the sheep wagon—their home for the trip,

They took six head of saddle horses to have horses to ride for lambing. Four of those horses were tied to the teams, and two were led behind Floyd's wagon. They left the ranch on Spring Creek March 28, 1939. The second day out, there was a snow storm that lasted most of the day but not bad enough to hold them up.

There was a stock trail - lands set aside for the movement of livestock to market or change of pasture. These lands were not fenced separately, but the rancher in whose pasture they were located used them in consideration for allowing trail herds to go through his pastures.

The evening of the fourth day, a hind wheel on the sheep wagon broke down. After taking the tongue off the sheep wagon to use as a pry pole, they put sacks of cake under the axle to level the wagon. Floyd rode back to the ranch to let his Dad know about the break down. He wasn't at home having taken a pickup load of goods to the new ranch.

His father came the next day and took the broken wheel to Gillette, Wyo. for repairs, holding them up for three days. They camped at the Burlington Lake north of Gillette, got the brand inspections and paperwork necessary for the rest of the trip and replenished the cake for the sheep and oats for the horses. From Gillette to Weston, the road was under construction, and they followed the road north through Powder River County into Custer County. The road right-of way was wide enough to graze the sheep on so they were in a lane that distance of the trip.

When they got to the Montana/Wyoming line, they were no longer feeding the sheep cottonseed cake. They camped on the Little Powder Road about four miles south of Biddle the first night in Montana. At Broadus they crossed on the old bridge that came into the north side of Broadus. Immediately after crossing the Powder River, they turned north and went out of Broadus on the road between Powder River and Mizpah.

On the third day out of Broadus, they crossed the Mizpah Creek and followed the county road to the destination, about 50 miles southeast of Miles City on Mizpah Creek. Floyd got to the Cross S the afternoon of April 25, so the entire trip for the sheep was 29 days. He turned 19 on April 20.

There were three trips made with livestock - two with sheep and one with the cattle and horses. Floyd's three brothers came with the cattle and horses. He doesn't know how many trips his Dad made with the pickup nor how many Mother made with the car. There were also several trips made with loads of machinery and other goods too large to fit in the car or pickup.

His brother Don was 12 at the time and the only survivor other than Floyd. He wrote, ".Being the youngest I got the privilege of sleeping on the floor. After a day or two, it didn't matter - I can still remember being good and tired! I am proud of coming to Montana on horseback!"

Dr. John W. Gilchrist

has donated two three-ring binders to the society. One binder shows pictures and maps and relates the story about a trip he took with his family in 1922 when John was 4 years old. On the trip were his parents Dr. A.E. and Glenn Gilchrist, his mother's parents, John and Ida Mae Montanye, his sister Rena Mae (Gilchrist) Powell, and his father's cousin John and Jessie Craig, and children Sarah, Calvin and Junior. Also included is the same trip his family took many years later.

The second binder is family history. John's ancestors include William Craig, the weaver of many of the coverlets that visitors and members enjoyed at the museum not long ago and Dr. A.E. Gilchrist who many will remember was a dentist here. Members of the society are encouraged to record their family histories and personal memories and John's books serve as an excellent example. You may view these books at the museum.

Frances Metz

Each year for Christmas. Frances gives eight families and/or individuals their membership to the society. This is a great idea for all of us to give for any occasion during the year.

Sally Zoller Moulton

A note (and donation) was received from member Sally Zoller Moulton

"I love the Bulletin, keep up the good work! Wish it might be compiled and printed in book form, especially earlier decades. New textile project sounds great. Good luck!"

From six members with a guess about the identity of the "mystery poet:"

1. "I don't believe there is a poet. You're making them up yourself!"
2. "**Jane Brown** is the mystery poet. She has a sense of humor and can write."
3. "I know who the poet is. Anybody who knows him very well knows it but I'm not going to tell because I enjoy seeing some of his witisms in The Bulletin."
4. "**Van Batterton** is the poet. It sounds like his sense of humor."
5. "**Bob Conwell** is my guess."
6. "It's **Charles Metz**." (Editor's note: All wrong, I wonder if # 3 even knows.)

Marceil Bostic

Marceil sent a splendid article that had appeared in The Shelbyville News, written by Kelley L. Simison, about Wilma and Norman Taylor of Morristown who wrote a book titled "This Train is Bound for Glory: The Story of America's Chapel Cars." It is the story of 13 railroad cars that helped take the gospel to the frontier. It is accurate account of how the cars were pulled on passenger and freight trains to more than 3,000 little railroad towns across the south and west from 1890 to the 1940s. These cars were especially influential in those towns that were without order, in other words they were wild and wide open. The cars and the ministry helped start churches and Sunday schools during those days. In the article, Wilma Taylor was quoted as saying, "Taking heaven on rails to hell-on-wheels towns was a high-tech way of preaching the gospel, way back then." The Taylors wrote the book from original letters and journals of the missionaries and chaplains who traveled on the cars. The book may be available at the Shelbyville Historical Society or contact the Grover Museum at 52 W. Broadway. This would probably make a most interesting program for our society in the future.

Bran Rolls

Mix 2 c. bran, 1 c. Pinnacle flour, 1/4 c. Orleans molasses, 1 3/4 c. sour milk, 1 egg, 1 tsp. soda.
Bake in slow oven. Mrs. Anna Allison from Omega Chapter Tri Kappa sorority 1913 cookbook.

Index to Children's Home Records Published

There is an excellent history of the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home in the latest newsletter of the Friends of the Indiana State Archives, Inc. The index to the Children's Home have been published and are available to researchers. The publication has information on the records available for the 10,000 children admitted to the home at Knightstown between 1867 and 1980. One of the compilers of the index includes Ruth Dorrel of the Indiana Historical Society and our county historian. Information about ordering a copy of the Index can be obtained by calling (800) IHS-1830.

City Bakery & Grocery (from 1865 The Greensburg Weekly Chronicle)
Jacob Bantz, Main St. opposite Moss House Bread and Cakes
every article is guaranteed to be PURE, FRESH and SWEET.
Parties, Pic Nics, & c., supplied on short notice and on reasonable terms.

Under "Harney's Hall," South-East corner of the square.
(That was where Huber's was and a tavern is now)

♥ Happy Valentine's Day! ♥

Our tomatoes are blighted
The beans are benighted
We haven't had lettuce since May.
But we have one crop
that just won't stop
We can't give zucchini away!
from the mystery poet

Marechal Pudding

One can grated pineapple, one cup powdered sugar, 3/4 box gelatin, 3 egg whites (well beaten), 1 pint whipped cream.

Dissolve gelatin in cup of cold water; let stand on warming oven. Add 2 Tbsp. lemon juice; put all together and keep in a cool place until served.

Mrs. Robert Woodfill, 1913

J & J King's on North side of Public Square

We keep a large stock of saddles, bridles, whips, harness, collars, spurs etc. Work made to order on short notice. All our work is warranted! Don't forget this place! July 25, 1865, GB Weekly Chronicle



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for

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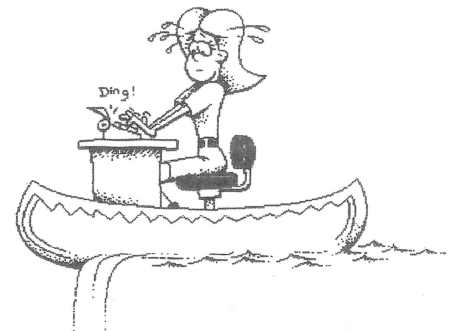
NOTICE

Deadline

March 15, 2000
June 15, 2000
Sept. 15, 1999
Dec. 15, 1999

Date mailed

April 30, 2000
July 30, 2000
Oct. 30, 1999
Jan. 30, 2000



If your dues are due please use this form to send them to the address below.

Historical Society of Decatur County, Inc.

P.O. Box 163 Greensburg, IN 47240

Due January 1 of each year: **Membership:** single - \$10: **Couple** - \$15: **Contributing** - \$30

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COMMENTS _____

Jennifer

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Editor of Bulletin

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Greensburg, In 47240

County Historian

Ruth Dorrel, 407 N. Webster,
St. Paul, IN 47272

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Museum display - Ginny Garvey and Ruth Cash

Museum volunteers - Helen Hamilton (663-8323)

Program committee - Joe Westhafer, Ruth Dorrel,
Jennifer McNealy and Margaret Herbert

Finance committee - Dan Anderson, Tony Owens,
Paul Pank and Bud Keith

Membership committee - Rheadawn Metz, Herb
Scheidler and Frances Metz

MUSEUM CURATOR

~~Russell Wilhoit~~

663-8290

SOCIETY'S AGENT

William H. Robbins

COUNTY GENEALOGISTS

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Irene Kreiger, 23184 Pocket Rd., Batesville, IN 47006

Russell Wilhoit, 328 N. Jackson, Greensburg, IN 47240

Ruth Dorrel, 407 N Webster, St. Paul, IN 47272

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THE BULLETIN

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DECATUR COUNTY

Vol. 7 No 10

April 2000

Greensburg, Indiana

NEXT MEETING:

Note the agenda for our Museum on pg. 2. The Bulletin is sent after the April display of textiles begins but it will be there well into May.

Of Special Note: The Society has purchased a plaque to be dedicated at the hospital **May 30**. The plaque will commemorate World War I veterans in whose honor the hospital was built. Watch for notice of the dedication May 30 in the Daily News and on WTRE radio. **Gene McCoy** is chairman of the committee.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Historical Society of Decatur Co. was held Feb. 19. Officers were elected (see back pg). **Vivian Kanouse** presented the society with a beautifully framed collection of Simplicity auto items. The car was built here by **Ira Hollensbe**. Vivian's husband, **Lloyd Kanouse**, bought the auto from the Hollensbe estate. The Simplicity is currently in Florida. Vivian's gift is a valuable addition to our local history collection and may be seen at the museum.

Dressed in the apparel of Riley's era, **Jeff Kuehl** gave an outstanding portrayal of The Children's Poet, James Whitcomb Riley. As Riley, he gave family background including the source of his middle name, his mother's death, losing the family home and his early attempts at making money including selling Bibles door to door in the Rushville and Connersville area.

Kuehl's performance included *The Raggedy Man*, *Jack and the Giant Killer*, and *Little Orphant Annie*. He also recited *An Old Sweetheart of Mine* for the recent Valentine's Day.

Kuehl portrayed Riley in *James Whitcomb Riley: The Children's Poet* at the Lilly Theatre in the Children's Museum of Indianapolis last fall. He is currently playing Eugene O'Neill in *Paul Robeson, All American* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre.

Welcome new members:

Dan and Jane Billman
Sue Williams, Elkhart, IN
JoAnne Martin

Contributing members

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Billman
Mr. & Mrs. Claude R Weber
Warren and Ruth Dorrel
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Conwell

Donations:

Margarett U. Kirk, Summerdale, Ala
Martha Davis, Columbus
Frances Metz
Dr. Calvin Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Claude R. Weber
Scott Shulman & Cipra Nemeth, L A, Calif
Mrs. Elizabeth M Brooks, Calif

Two Important Notices

The museum is in need of a good office desk that is big enough for a computer and phone. We also continually seek pictures of any buildings in Greensburg and Decatur County as well as any memorabilia of the Red Men's lodge, Elks, or any lodge that no longer is active in this town or county. I would especially appreciate membership ledgers. Please call Russell Wilhoit at 663-8290.

Also: An effort is being made to have a marker placed here for John Wilder. We have been approved so far, with one more stage to go in July. The historical part of the payment will be \$550 for the 1/3rd share. If anyone is interested in donating any money toward this worthwhile project, please send a check to my attention to Box 163, Greensburg, IN 47240 made out to John Wilder marker fund. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Thanks, from Russell

MUSEUM NEWS

Museum Dresses up for Spring

by *Diana Springmier*

The Decatur County Historical Museum opened **April 8** for the 2000 season with a textile display including costumes dating to the mid-eighteen hundreds, using recently constructed mannequins to display county residents ancestors' clothing. Quilts, coverlids and clothing accessories will also be on view. These museum collections have been identified historically and catalogued through an Indiana Heritage Research Grant, a program of the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Humanities Council. The exhibit will be an invaluable resource in educating Decatur County residents about their forefathers' lifestyles. County and city fourth-graders visiting during their annual spring museum tour will be able to learn about their ancestors' lives by viewing this display when they tour the museum and grounds. This display will continue through much of May.

Following the textile display will be a historical period of an entirely different nature:

World War II clothing, uniforms of men and women serving in the armed forces from Decatur county, as well as other memorabilia with some items dating to the Civil War will be on display for the annual Memorial Exhibit the last two weeks of May.

A special wedding celebration of yesteryear will open Saturday, June 3, with cake and punch served on Sunday, June 4 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. highlighting the presentation of the museum's collection of wedding apparel, gifted to the museum or on loan from society members' families. Eighteen wedding gowns will guide visitors in the stepping back in time to family weddings from the late 1800s throughout the 20th century.

The museum welcomes the community to all of these spring exhibits. The Decatur County Historical Museum is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April through December. Admission is free.

Greensburgh? and some of our county's prize swine

Note the "h" on Greensburg and the date on the check below. Member **Martha G. Davis** of Columbus, IN has given the society the check which belonged to her grandparents when the "h" in Greensburg was changed.

No.	Greensburgh, Ind.,	187__
First National Bank		
Pay to.....		or Bearer,
.....		Dollars,

Martha also gave the society four pictures of prize winning stock of the Midway Stock Farm in Jackson Township. They belonged to the parents and grandparents of **Mrs. Harold (Bessie) Odgen**. The pictures show Duroc Jersey Swine including "Queen Lil" a prize winner raised on the farm. The pictures and check may be seen in the museum. Thanks Martha.

Mail Pail

A Gift from Alabama

Margarett U. Kirk of Summerdale, Alabama sent some memorabilia for the Society that you see. It may also help some with researching your family if you have a Buckley ancestor. She sent an unusual death announcement for **Frank Buckley**, who died Jan. 20, 1894 that is printed by the Art Printing Co. of Elkhart, Ind. She wrote that anyone in this area "who is doing research on the Buckley family and wishes to peruse or learn more about the items which I sent to Kansas can do so by contacting the Cowley County Historical Society for more information." Write to:

Mrs. Frankie S. Cullison,
Cowley County Historical Society,
2010 Dee Street,

Winfield, Kansas 67156.

She also sent 8th grade commencement programs from 1896 (original) and 1905 (copy). The first took place at the Rink Opera House and the names **Cortex Turner, Willie Lewis, Roy Cordell, Flora Goodwin, Edward Porter** and (presenting diplomas) **G.G. Welsh**. Those names were only those who took part in the program. The 1905 program is not from our county but others may prove me wrong. These items are in the museum for you to see.

Margarett wrote: "I enjoy reading the Bulletins, and lately have been sharing them with a couple I met in our local genealogical society who are researching some of their ancestors in Decatur County.

PRAISE AND OUR YOUNG MEMBERS

Amanda Mitchell from Peoria, AZ wrote a note about her visit to the museum last October.

"When I was back in Indiana for a few days this past October, I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to the museum. I had a personal tour with my old classmate, **Joyce Konzelman**."

Amanda is also interested in young people in general and especially in **Brian White**, one of our new members, whom she knows. "He is on the honor roll at North Decatur, in the band, and involved in sports. He placed first in a music contest at Columbus and served as a page in Indianapolis. I wondered if the museum ever encourages young people to become involved in any activity at the museum?"

From Roger Frank Robison, MD. of Bloomington

I found a reference to the Republican "spoils of war" obtained after Benjamin Harrison was elected in 1888. By oral history at the Tri-Family Reunion (**Hamilton-Donnell-McCoy**) I heard that many local Republicans got political plumbs from Harrison.

An opportunity to cheat the Indians was evidently one of the perks. My great grandfather **John** ran a grocery store in Kingston which was still standing about a decade ago. It was located just across the side street from the back of the church. As a grocer he got this Indian contract "Allotting Agent Grocer." After a run-in with the Dalton gang he decided to return to bucolic Kingston.

My grandfather **Frank** worked in the grocery business in Greensburg until about 1903. I have been trying to locate where on the square. (If anyone knows where the Robison Grocery Store was on the square please let me know. Perhaps Dr. Robison will write about that Dalton incident!)

Two gifts from California

Readers will be interested in materials sent by Mrs. Elizabeth. Brooks from California. They were found in the effects of the late Eleanor Brooks Bywaters, Greensburg teacher, who lived in the upstairs apartment of the Shannon home - now the museum.

Also, Scott Shulman and Cipra Nemeth, Los Angeles send a large collection of old postcards showing scenes from Decatur County and Greensburg.

SO IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR! **by Bob Mitchell**

In Lands where excellence is found
Where men and women are renowned
For attributes of worldly span
There lives the "mediocre" man

The world is run by intellects
Which analyze and then projects
The future where the master plan
Eludes the "mediocre" man.

Amid the giants of this age
The rich - powerful - the sage
There lives the one who "also ran"
But stayed the "mediocre" man

He has no fortune, no acclaim
His daily tasks brought him no fame

And yet since the world began
There's been this "mediocre" man

His life is plain, he's seldom heard
Yet he's a prolific bird
Who numbers millions in his clan
That's called "The Mediocre Man."

And like the locust, which I hear
Emerges on just certain year
And wields its power like giant fan
So does the "mediocre" man.

Now, in this election year
There's one thing we hear loud and clear
The politicians, if they can
Will woo the "mediocre" man.

POLITICS IN DECATUR COUNTY AND ELSEWHERE

We are pleased that **Dr. Calvin Davis** has moved back to our county after teaching in the Department of History at Duke University for many years. His contribution to our society and to our Bulletin will be much anticipated.

He sent the sample primary ballot of the 1924 election seen on page 5. It is interesting that in spite of women having only gotten the vote, there are two women on this ballot. Did women run for office even before they got the opportunity to vote? Who won the primary that year?

Dr. Davis wrote: Going through the papers of my late aunt, **Mrs. Beryl Thompson**, in 1984 I came close to throwing out the enclosed sample ballot. **Don Eubank** spotted it and has preserved it since then.

No doubt we will read and hear much about such dramatic elections as the Lincoln election of 1860, the Hayes - Tilden disputed election of 1876, and the FDR third term election of 1940 as this election year moves toward its conclusion, but the 1920 elections are all worth attention. Some of the finest political history written in recent years has focused on the 1920s. Robert K. Murrey's *"The 103rd Ballot,"* a study of the Democrats National Convention of 1924 appeared in 1976. Murray had already won wide recognition with his books on the Red Scare of the late Wilson administration and the administration of Warren G. Harding, and this book is certainly their equal. William Henry Harbrough, who won fame with his biography of Theodore Roosevelt, in 1973, published *Lawyers Lawyer, the Life of John W. Davis*. It is an even better scholarly work than the Roosevelt volume and is an addition to legal and political history of the greatest importance.

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Calvin Davis

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(vote for one only)

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(13) Hiram W. Johnson

For Governor

(vote for one only)

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(vote for one only)

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(21) Charles S. Hisey

For Prosecuting Attorney, 69th

Judicial Circuit

(vote for one only)

(22) John W. Holcomb

(23) Roy C. Small

For Treasurer

(vote for one only)

(26) Urso Morgan

(28) John S. Morris

(29) Harry Robbins

(30) Freda Meek Smith

(24) Thomas Featherstone

(25) Elizabeth Logan

For Sheriff

(Vote for one only)

(37) Otis E. Maddux

(38) Ben T. Riley

(31) Oscar Best

(32) August Brokelmeier

(33) Jefferson C. Davis

(34) Hugh Flint

(35) John R. Glass

(36) Ira I. Hutchison

For County Commissioner,

First District

(Vote for one only)

(39) John C. Horung

(40) Uriah Privett

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(Vote for one only)

(41) Lewis E. Lines

(42) George C. Walker

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(vote for one only)

(45) Kenneth L. Adams

(46) Sam Elliott

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Westport, South Precinct

(Vote for one only)

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(67) Carl Davis

Frances Metz sent some paper goodies including the 1926 membership card for the Indiana Brotherhood of Threshermen. I am totally unfamiliar with this group but maybe all of the members of the Historical Society are familiar with the Threshermen.



INDIANA BROTHERHOOD of THRESHERMEN

Membership Card

**1926 Convention, January 19, 20, 21
Tomlinson Hall, Indianapolis**

Two sessions convention each day

Big Show on Night of 21st : Bring Your Family

Be sure to present this card at the door. It will show the boys there your membership standing. W. E. McCreery, Secretary

Included with this card was a paper, part of which is printed below. How long were they active here?

Indiana Brotherhood of Threshermen Awaken, Awaken; Rejoice, Rejoice!

The Muezzin is Calling:

Now, let the Faithful Rejoice and be Glad with an Exceeding Gladness.

A Tooter, tired of limb and with bated breath, brings tidings that will cheer the heart and dispel all sorrow. He bears with him a proclamation from that revered Chieftain Remie Llurc, proclaiming that his noble chieftain and his faithful brigands have gathered together their trappings and are preparing for the caravan at the oasis of Indianapolis, and calling upon his faithful subjects of Ramadan to make all and every preparation for the proposed visitation.

Therefore, is the summons issued to all Tooters.

You are commanded, ordered and decreed to congregate at the oasis of Indianapolis on January 19, 20, 21, 1926, then and there to participate in the greatest ceremonial in the history of our Talmadge. Tooters, in great numbers have signified a desire to be admitted to our sacred circle, and in order that their longings shall be gratified, unusual preparations are in course of completion to so impress these neophytes that we will be glad of the knowledge that they are among the living at the close of the ceremonies. Remle has declared that during his period of apparent inactivity of the past year he has added many wild beasts of the jungle to his already large aggregation, and in order that they too shall be made to act their part in the coming festivities, he will see to it that they be made part and parcel of the exhibition incident to this jollification. He further demands that all his faithful followers bedeck themselves in all their gorgeousness to act as escort to his caravan, making of the event one of such prominence as to call forth the plaudits and encourage the envy of all the unsophisticated who are so unfortunate as to be denied entrance to this caravansary.

(There is more of this wonderfully flowery prose and then officer's names)

Elmer Crull, Pres. Hagerstown - O.L. Brown, Vice-Pres. Lebanon - W. E. McCreery, Sec. Treas. Indianapolis

Washington Pie

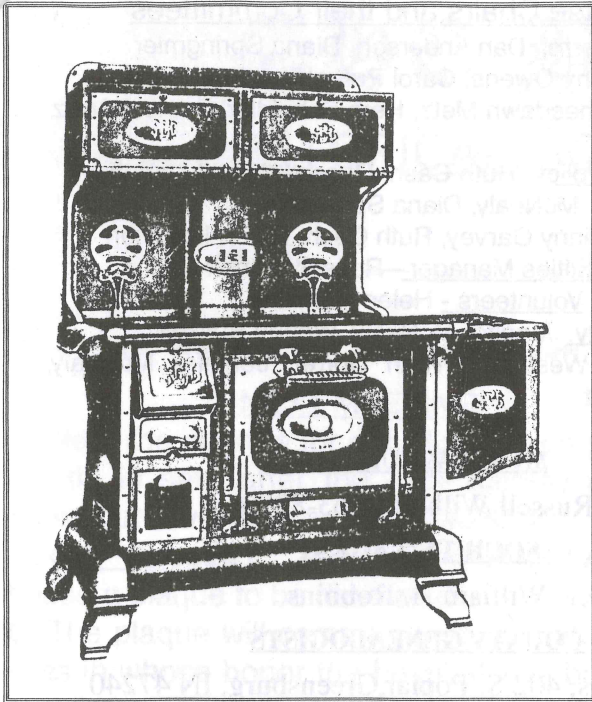
1/2 c sugar, 1 c Pinnacle flour, 3/4 c milk, 1 egg, 1 tbsp. butter, 1 tsp. baking powder.

Mix and bake. When done split the cake and put in the following filling:

1 c of milk, 1/2 c sugar, 1 egg, 2 heaping tsp Kingsford corn starch, butter size of walnut.

Cook until thick, add flavor. The top of cake should be iced.

Mrs. Frank Monfort



The South Bend Malleable Range

A distinctive feature of the fire box and grates of the South Bend Malleable Range is their accessibility. To remove them, there is but one bolt to take out. Turn the button to release the cover from the cogs, slip them off and the grates may be removed. The fire box is made to burn either coal or wood. A turn of the grates with a crank is all that is necessary to change them from one to the other. They are heavy and strong, the cogs being on the outside of the fire box, away from the ashes and fuel.

The ash pan is in the form of a scoop into which the ashes are directed by chutes. When drawn out, a little cup catches any ashes that may be pulled out with the pan.

The damper is on the right hand side of the range. It is always cool and easy to access. You do not have to reach over a hot top or boiling vessels to operate it.

The Flush Reservoir Range with High Closet weighs 550 pounds and clears a 2 ft. 6 in. door. Order today!

If I'd lived at another time
Closer to earth's creation
Those 40 days and nights of rain
Would have been on my vacation!
from Vurse Ur Wurse by mystery poet



items
for
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NOTICE

Deadline

March 15, 2000
June 15, 2000
Sept. 15, 2000
Dec. 15, 2000

Date mailed

April 30, 2000
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Boiled Coffee

1 cup coffee 1 cup cold water

1 egg 6 cups boiling water

Scald a granite ware coffee pot. beat egg slightly, add coffee, water & water and put on back of range for 10 minutes.

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Historical Society of Decatur County, Inc.

P.O. Box 163 Greensburg, IN 47240

Due **January 1** of each year: **Membership:** single - \$10: **Couple** - \$15: **Contributing** - \$30



RENEWAL



NEW



GIFT OR DONATION

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF _____

COMMENTS _____

SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

President..... Diana Springmier
(1188 E CR 100 N, Greensburg, Ph: 663-2997)
Vice Pres.....Jennifer McNealy
Rec. Sec.....Charity Mitchell
Cor. Sec.....Kathryn Bailey
Membership Sec.....Rheadawn Metz
Treas.....Dan Anderson

DIRECTORS

Tony Owens	2000
Gene McCoy	2000
Ruth Cash	2001
Russell Wilhoit	2002
Helen Hamilton	2002
Ginny Garvey	2002
Van Batterton	At large

Editor of Bulletin

Pat Smith, 122 W. Sheridan,
Greensburg, In 47240

County Historian

Ruth Dorrel, 407 N. Webster,
St. Paul, IN 47272

Committee Chairs and their Committees

Budget: Ruth Dorrel, Dan Anderson, Diana Springmier

Fundraising: Tony Owens, Carol Pumphrey, Paul Pank

Membership: Rheadawn Metz, Herb Scheidler, Frances Metz
Museum:

Collections' Policy- Ruth Cash, Russell Wilhoit, Jennifer
McNealy, Diana Springmier

Displays- Ginny Garvey, Ruth Cash, Helen Hamilton

Facilities Manager - Russell Wilhoit

Volunteers - Helen Hamilton

Publicity: Jennifer McNealy, Wendy Russell

Program: Joe Westhafer, Ruth Dorrel, Jennifer McNealy,
Margaret Herbert

MUSEUM CURATOR

Russell Wilhoit - 663-8290

SOCIETY'S AGENT

William H. Robbins

COUNTY GENEALOGISTS

Rosalie Robbins, 402 S. Poplar, Greensburg, IN 47240

Irene Kreiger, 23184 Pocket Rd., Batesville, IN 47006

Russell Wilhoit, 328 N. Jackson, Greensburg, IN 47240

Ruth Dorrel, 407 N Webster, St. Paul, IN 47272

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
DECATUR COUNTY, INC.
P.O. BOX 163
GREENSBURG, IN 47240

Nonprofit Org.
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Greensburg, IN 47240

Diana Springmier
1188 E CR 100 N
Greensburg IN 47240,

THE BULLETIN

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DECATUR COUNTY

Vol. 7 No 10

April 2000

Greensburg, Indiana

NEXT MEETING:

Note the agenda for our Museum on pg. 2. The Bulletin is sent after the April display of textiles begins but it will be there well into May.

Of Special Note: The Society has purchased a plaque to be dedicated at the hospital **May 30**. The plaque will commemorate World War I veterans in whose honor the hospital was built. Watch for notice of the dedication May 30 in the Daily News and on WTRE radio. **Gene McCoy** is chairman of the committee.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Historical Society of Decatur Co. was held Feb. 19. Officers were elected (see back pg). **Vivian Kanouse** presented the society with a beautifully framed collection of Simplicity auto items. The car was built here by **Ira Hollensbe**. Vivian's husband, **Lloyd Kanouse**, bought the auto from the Hollensbe estate. The Simplicity is currently in Florida. Vivian's gift is a valuable addition to our local history collection and may be seen at the museum.

Dressed in the apparel of Riley's era, **Jeff Kuehl** gave an outstanding portrayal of The Children's Poet, James Whitcomb Riley. As Riley, he gave family background including the source of his middle name, his mother's death, losing the family home and his early attempts at making money including selling Bibles door to door in the Rushville and Connersville area.

Kuehl's performance included *The Raggedy Man*, *Jack and the Giant Killer*, and *Little Orphant Annie*. He also recited *An Old Sweetheart of Mine* for the recent Valentine's Day.

Kuehl portrayed Riley in *James Whitcomb Riley: The Children's Poet* at the Lilly Theatre in the Children's Museum of Indianapolis last fall. He is currently playing Eugene O'Neill in *Paul Robeson, All American* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre.

Welcome new members:

Dan and Jane Billman
Sue Williams, Elkhart, IN
JoAnne Martin

Contributing members

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Billman
Mr. & Mrs. Claude R Weber
Warren and Ruth Dorrel
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Conwell

Donations:

Margarett U. Kirk, Summerdale, Ala
Martha Davis, Columbus
Frances Metz
Dr. Calvin Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Claude R. Weber
Scott Shulman & Cipra Nemeth, L A, Calif
Mrs. Elizabeth M Brooks, Calif

Two Important Notices

The museum is in need of a good office desk that is big enough for a computer and phone. We also continually seek pictures of any buildings in Greensburg and Decatur County as well as any memorabilia of the Red Men's lodge, Elks, or any lodge that no longer is active in this town or county. I would especially appreciate membership ledgers. Please call Russell Wilhoit at 663-8290.

Also: An effort is being made to have a marker placed here for John Wilder. We have been approved so far, with one more stage to go in July. The historical part of the payment will be \$550 for the 1/3rd share. If anyone is interested in donating any money toward this worthwhile project, please send a check to my attention to Box 163, Greensburg, IN 47240 made out to John Wilder marker fund. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Thanks, from Russell

MUSEUM NEWS

Museum Dresses up for Spring

by *Diana Springmier*

The Decatur County Historical Museum opened **April 8** for the 2000 season with a textile display including costumes dating to the mid-eighteen hundreds, using recently constructed mannequins to display county residents ancestors' clothing. Quilts, coverlids and clothing accessories will also be on view. These museum collections have been identified historically and catalogued through an Indiana Heritage Research Grant, a program of the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Humanities Council. The exhibit will be an invaluable resource in educating Decatur County residents about their forefathers' lifestyles. County and city fourth-graders visiting during their annual spring museum tour will be able to learn about their ancestors' lives by viewing this display when they tour the museum and grounds. This display will continue through much of May.

Following the textile display will be a historical period of an entirely different nature:

World War II clothing, uniforms of men and women serving in the armed forces from Decatur county, as well as other memorabilia with some items dating to the Civil War will be on display for the annual Memorial Exhibit the last two weeks of May.

A special wedding celebration of yesteryear will open Saturday, June 3, with cake and punch served on Sunday, June 4 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. highlighting the presentation of the museum's collection of wedding apparel, gifted to the museum or on loan from society members' families. Eighteen wedding gowns will guide visitors in the stepping back in time to family weddings from the late 1800s throughout the 20th century.

The museum welcomes the community to all of these spring exhibits. The Decatur County Historical Museum is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. April through December. Admission is free.

Greensburgh? and some of our county's prize swine

Note the "h" on Greensburg and the date on the check below. Member **Martha G. Davis** of Columbus, IN has given the society the check which belonged to her grandparents when the "h" in Greensburg was changed.

No.	Greensburgh, Ind.,	187__
First National Bank		
Pay to.....or Bearer,Dollars,		

Martha also gave the society four pictures of prize winning stock of the Midway Stock Farm in Jackson Township. They belonged to the parents and grandparents of **Mrs. Harold (Bessie) Odgen**. The pictures show Duroc Jersey Swine including "Queen Lil" a prize winner raised on the farm. The pictures and check may be seen in the museum. Thanks Martha.

Mail Pail

A Gift from Alabama

Margarett U. Kirk of Summerdale, Alabama sent some memorabilia for the Society that you see. It may also help some with researching your family if you have a Buckley ancestor. She sent an unusual death announcement for **Frank Buckley**, who died Jan. 20, 1894 that is printed by the Art Printing Co. of Elkhart, Ind. She wrote that anyone in this area "who is doing research on the Buckley family and wishes to peruse or learn more about the items which I sent to Kansas can do so by contacting the Cowley County Historical Society for more information." Write to:

Mrs. Frankie S. Cullison,
Cowley County Historical Society,
2010 Dee Street,

Winfield, Kansas 67156.

She also sent 8th grade commencement programs from 1896 (original) and 1905 (copy). The first took place at the Rink Opera House and the names **Cortex Turner, Willie Lewis, Roy Cordell, Flora Goodwin, Edward Porter** and (presenting diplomas) **G.G. Welsh**. Those names were only those who took part in the program. The 1905 program is not from our county but others may prove me wrong. These items are in the museum for you to see.

Margarett wrote: "I enjoy reading the Bulletins, and lately have been sharing them with a couple I met in our local genealogical society who are researching some of their ancestors in Decatur County.

PRAISE AND OUR YOUNG MEMBERS

Amanda Mitchell from Peoria, AZ wrote a note about her visit to the museum last October.

"When I was back in Indiana for a few days this past October, I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to the museum. I had a personal tour with my old classmate, **Joyce Konzelman**."

Amanda is also interested in young people in general and especially in **Brian White**, one of our new members, whom she knows. "He is on the honor roll at North Decatur, in the band, and involved in sports. He placed first in a music contest at Columbus and served as a page in Indianapolis. I wondered if the museum ever encourages young people to become involved in any activity at the museum?"

From Roger Frank Robison, MD. of Bloomington

I found a reference to the Republican "spoils of war" obtained after Benjamin Harrison was elected in 1888. By oral history at the Tri-Family Reunion (**Hamilton-Donnell-McCoy**) I heard that many local Republicans got political plumbs from Harrison.

An opportunity to cheat the Indians was evidently one of the perks. My great grandfather **John** ran a grocery store in Kingston which was still standing about a decade ago. It was located just across the side street from the back of the church. As a grocer he got this Indian contract "Allotting Agent Grocer." After a run-in with the Dalton gang he decided to return to bucolic Kingston.

My grandfather **Frank** worked in the grocery business in Greensburg until about 1903. I have been trying to locate where on the square. (If anyone knows where the Robison Grocery Store was on the square please let me know. Perhaps Dr. Robison will write about that Dalton incident!)

Two gifts from California

Readers will be interested in materials sent by Mrs. Elizabeth. Brooks from California. They were found in the effects of the late Eleanor Brooks Bywaters, Greensburg teacher, who lived in the upstairs apartment of the Shannon home - now the museum.

Also, Scott Shulman and Cipra Nemeth, Los Angeles send a large collection of old postcards showing scenes from Decatur County and Greensburg.

SO IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR! **by Bob Mitchell**

In Lands where excellence is found
Where men and women are renowned
For attributes of worldly span
There lives the "mediocre" man

The world is run by intellects
Which analyze and then projects
The future where the master plan
Eludes the "mediocre" man.

Amid the giants of this age
The rich - powerful - the sage
There lives the one who "also ran"
But stayed the "mediocre" man

He has no fortune, no acclaim
His daily tasks brought him no fame

And yet since the world began
There's been this "mediocre" man

His life is plain, he's seldom heard
Yet he's a prolific bird
Who numbers millions in his clan
That's called "The Mediocre Man."

And like the locust, which I hear
Emerges on just certain year
And wields its power like giant fan
So does the "mediocre" man.

Now, in this election year
There's one thing we hear loud and clear
The politicians, if they can
Will woo the "mediocre" man.

POLITICS IN DECATUR COUNTY AND ELSEWHERE

We are pleased that **Dr. Calvin Davis** has moved back to our county after teaching in the Department of History at Duke University for many years. His contribution to our society and to our Bulletin will be much anticipated.

He sent the sample primary ballot of the 1924 election seen on page 5. It is interesting that in spite of women having only gotten the vote, there are two women on this ballot. Did women run for office even before they got the opportunity to vote? Who won the primary that year?

Dr. Davis wrote: Going through the papers of my late aunt, **Mrs. Beryl Thompson**, in 1984 I came close to throwing out the enclosed sample ballot. **Don Eubank** spotted it and has preserved it since then.

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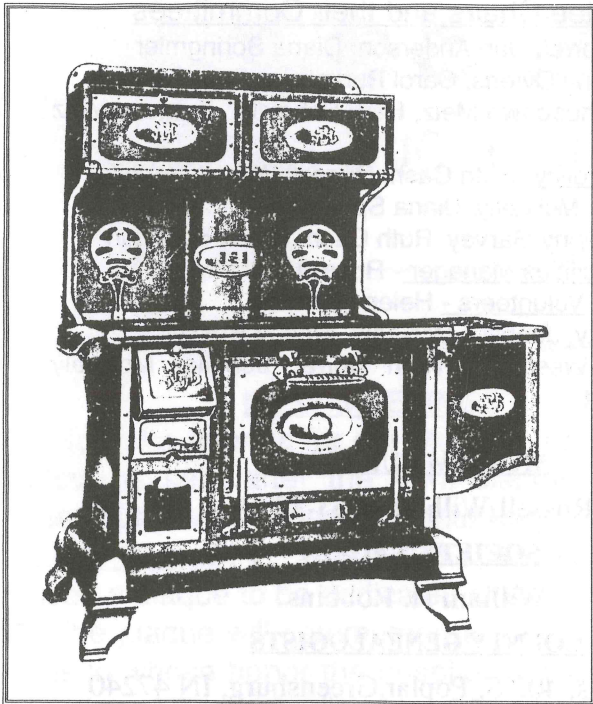
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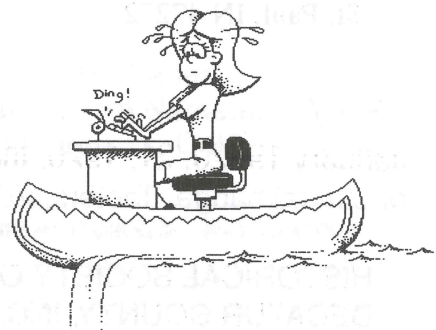
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☐

RENEWAL

☐

NEW

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GIFT OR DONATION

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF _____

COMMENTS _____

SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

President..... Diana Springmier
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Rec. Sec.....Charity Mitchell
Cor. Sec.....Kathryn Bailey
Membership Sec.....Rheadawn Metz
Treas.....Dan Anderson

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Gene McCoy 2000
Ruth Cash 2001
Russell Wilhoit 2002
Helen Hamilton 2002
Ginny Garvey 2002
Van Batterton At large

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Pat Smith, 122 W. Sheridan,
Greensburg, In 47240

County Historian

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St. Paul, IN 47272

Committee Chairs and their Committees

Budget: Ruth Dorrel, Dan Anderson, Diana Springmier

Fundraising: Tony Owens, Carol Pumphrey, Paul Pank

Membership: Rheadawn Metz, Herb Scheidler, Frances Metz

Museum:

Collections' Policy- Ruth Cash, Russell Wilhoit, Jennifer
McNealy, Diana Springmier

Displays- Ginny Garvey, Ruth Cash, Helen Hamilton

Facilities Manager - Russell Wilhoit

Volunteers - Helen Hamilton

Publicity: Jennifer McNealy, Wendy Russell

Program: Joe Westhafer, Ruth Dorrel, Jennifer McNealy,
Margaret Herbert

MUSEUM CURATOR

Russell Wilhoit - 663-8290

SOCIETY'S AGENT

William H. Robbins

COUNTY GENEALOGISTS

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF
DECATUR COUNTY, INC.
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The Bulletin

The Historical Society of Decatur County

Vol. 7 No 11

July 2000

Greensburg, Indiana

FALL TOUR PLANS:

The Society's Program Committee, headed by **Joe Westhafer**, is planning a tour to the New Albany area in **October**. Plans are in the early stages as of this printing so please watch the *Greensburg Daily News*, listen to WTRE, and read Pat Smith's column for details in early fall as reservations will be limited.

LOANS SOUGHT FOR AUGUST EXHIBIT

The August exhibit will interest the men as well as the ladies. A presentation on "Petroliana," a collection of filling station items from the day when there was a station on every corner of the square, will reeducate many of us. This exhibit will also be an education for the younger generations.

If you have anything to add to this exhibit, please call Helen at 663-8323, Ginny at 663-2132 or Ruth at 663-7930.

The **September** exhibit will be "**Crazy Quilts.**"

If you have a crazy quilt that you could loan, please contact one of the names and numbers above.

Dues due?

The Society does not send out statements for dues so it is easy for us to let the due date slip by without being paid. They are due in January of each year. Would you check to see if you paid your dues? There are about 100 members who have not paid according to the records of the membership chairman.

ThankYou

Welcome new members:

Harold Stier, Cincinnati

Donations:

Omega Chapter, Tri Kappa Sorority
Also, See Acquisitions on page

- Page 2 - MUSEUM NEWS
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- Page 9 - Explanation of The Bulletin's Extra Pages
- Page 10 - State Events
- Page 11 - Deadlines and dues form

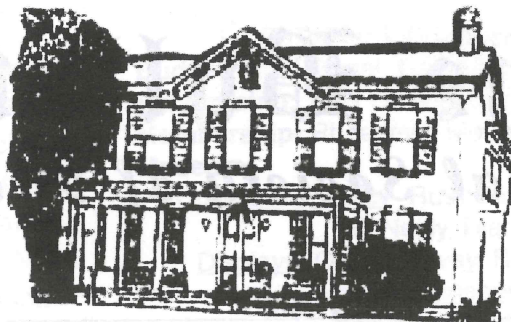
THROUGHOUT - BITS AND PIECES OF LOCAL AND
STATE HISTORY, RECIPES, ADS, POEMS

#####

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

- TONY OWENS** FOUND THE PICTURE OF THE MUSEUM. IT WAS USED FOR THE 1997 CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT.
- MARK AND KATHY RICHMOND** LOANED THE BOUND ISSUES OF THE THE DECATUR REPUBLICAN. THE BITS OF INFORMATION FOUND THROUGHOUT THIS BULLETIN CAME FROM THE ISSUES.
- MEMBERS** FOR CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES, LETTERS AND OFFERING SUGGESTIONS

Museum News



*by President
Diana
Springmier*

The museum's 2000 season opened April 1 with a textile display of the museum's collection of costumes, linens and quilts. The materials dating from 1840-1930 had been catalogued through a matching fund grant, an Indiana Humanities Research Grant, a grant funded through the Indiana Historical Society and Indiana Humanities Council. **Alice Rust**, the chief researcher, was assisted by **Jane Keith**, both Society members. The \$2,500 grant was matched in volunteer time of which much was expended with the help of **Helen Hamilton** to set up this educational display.

The textile exhibit was held over into May so the fourth graders from Rosenmund, St. Mary's, billings and North Decatur and a South Decatur history class could learn of their ancestors' lifestyles as they visited the museum on school spring field trips. All students, including the First Baptist Church pre-school, were especially fascinated by the formerly -live black crow adorning one of the ladies' hats on a mannequin in the north parlor as well as the high button shoes resting by the hem of her dress. The students were noted that the tiny waists of the ladies of the 1800s indicated no couch potatoes lived in those days.

Joyce Konzelman and **Phyllis Doerflinger**, on a quiet volunteer Sunday afternoon, spruced the museum up for the upcoming display after the deep annual cleaning of the museum in early March.

Memorial Day week-end was are membered at the museum in **Russell Wilhoit's** upstairs exhibit with memorabilia on loan from Russell's collection as well as **Bill Ford, Candy Acra, Stanley and Liz Reed, Claude Weber** and **Kathryn Bailey's** war materials. Always of special interest is the Normandy clay bust of Kathryn, sculpted by one of her French patients when she was a World War II nurse overseeing a 500 bed tent hospital in Normandy.

Also in May the Decatur County Arts and Cultural Council held their annual spring arts fair, moving it from the park downtown to the museum, having music on the porch and craft booths in the bank parking lot adjacent to the museum grounds. We are hoping the "Music and Art at the Museum" will be continued next year, and the weather will be more cooperative.

There was little time for Display Committee members Ginny Garvey and Helen Hamilton to set up their breathtaking 1852-1996 wedding gown exhibit, but the year's planning resulted in a professionally presented exhibit. Each bride was pictured in her gown on the grand piano in an impressive array in the south parlor as were their gowns in the downstairs room gracing corners and halls on the mannequins made by society members.

On various tables and in the three cornered cupboard were wedding memorabilia, including Nancy Reynolds' collection of crystal brides' baskets, Helen's cake toppers, Victorian wedding greeting postcards, gloves, 1930s bridal book, a wedding quilt on the bed upstairs and other keepsakes. Framed marriage licenses from the late 1800s and early 1900s graced the dining room and north parlor walls.

The official opening weekend of the display, 150 guests visited, and those on Sunday enjoyed a "wedding reception" with the traditional cake and punch. Carol Pumphrey created the floral arrangements for the mantel, and Doris's Sugar Shack loaned us a mock wedding cake table centerpiece while WalMart sent a large sheet cake for the "wedding guests" to enjoy.

A self-guided tour with a brief history of each bride's wedding information added to the interest of this walk back in time. Many parents and grandparents brought their children and grandchildren to view a world unfamiliar to them, learning of the life of those who proceeded them and some of whom are part of their lives today.

Again the museum was open following the 4th of July Parade, a tradition on Greensburg's North Franklin Street. Lemonade was served on the lawn where many Decatur County natives, returning home for the mid-summer holiday, reminisced with family and friends and toured the museum.

I want to thank-in-print Ginny Garvey and Helen Hamilton for their countless hours spent gathering, pressing, and steaming the wedding gowns, planing and setting up the displays throughout the two floors of the museum, and especially their enthusiasm which is definitely catching. Without their unique professionally presented exhibits, we the community would have little reason to return to the museum time after time.



ST. MARY'S LITTLE HOOSIERS

St. Mary's Little Hoosiers were very busy this year. Membership this year was 48 students from 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. In the fall our activities included genealogy with Mr. **Russell Wilhoit** and helping plant the millennium tree. After Christmas, we had a visit from the Hoosier Pioneer portrayed by **Kevin Stonerock**. We also did activities which included tin punch, square dancing, and our favorite basket making with Mr. **Steve Mills**. We concluded our year with a field trip and picnic to Mounds State Park. There we learned about the ancient Indian mounds.

Note: Word of what our young history groups in Decatur county are doing is a great addition to our Bulletin. I hope all schools with such a group will let us know what their activities have been and will be. Thank you **Donna Stewart** for sending in this about St. Mary's Little Hoosiers.

Brambles

One lemon grated whole,
1 cup raisins, seeded and chopped fine,
1/2 cup sugar,

1 egg,
1 tablespoon cracker dust,

bake in "turnovers" or patty pans, or better still, roll

trimmings of puff paste as thin as possible, put a layer on a baking sheet, spread with above mixture and cover with another flat of paste. Mark off with a pastry jagger in strips four inches long by two inches wide and bake in a quick oven. These are nice with a thin icing and are delicious with cocoa for lunch. Another richer filling is made by chopping very fine 1/4 pound figs, 2 ounces citron, 1/4 cup pistachio nuts (or almonds), 2 ounces seeded raisins, add 1 egg well beaten and use like the above.

Editor's note: The word "jagger, according to my dictionary is " an instrument for cutting indentations into."

Tripe

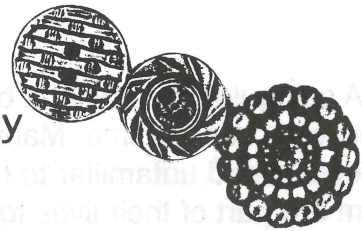
In whatever way it is to be served, tripe is usually better to be simmered gently until perfectly tender, in clear water. If it has a strong odor add a little vinegar to the water and change several times. Dry carefully on a cloth before broiling or frying."

Editor's note: Tripe is, according to my dictionary, stomach tissue of a ruminant, (an animal that chews a cud).

These recipes came from a 1910 "Gold Medal Flour Cook Book



The Snap on Button Factory by *Bob Mitchell*



Claude Williams came to town. He had a patent, a plan, and a proposal. Thus began the St. Paul Snap On Button Company.

Why Mr. Williams chose St. Paul was never really known, but he came several times armed with a promotional program that included the sale of stock in a company. His visits caught the attention of several St. Paul people who encouraged him by their interest. Each visit was concluded with the promise of more to come.

On one visit, Williams presented a very legal looking appearing form outlining the formulation of a corporation capitalized at \$25,000, with 2500 shares valued at \$10 each. The document attested to the legality of Williams' patent and its ownership by the Corporation. The papers were drawn up by a Mr. Zilson, who, while never visible in St. Paul, was presumed to be a lawyer. It noted also that Williams was to retain 1000 shares, Zilson 99 shares, and the rest to be sold to the general public. We can assume that to mean St. Paul residents and their relatives or friends. Williams was quick to announce that he did not want any "management" role in the Company because "I don't know how to run a company."



After a few visits to St. Paul laying the groundwork for the sale of stock, Williams announced that at the next meeting he would have a demonstration of his proposed product. The promise of a visual demonstration sparked more interest and a larger attendance at the meeting.

The patent was on the novel, but simple, idea of producing a decorative button with half a seamstress snap glued to the back. When the other half was sewn on a garment the buttons could quickly and easily change the appearance of the piece. Earrings to match were to be a companion product.

The next meeting drew more people and they were not disappointed. Williams brought with him a young lady with obvious physical attributes and with equally visible talent. Her name has been lost to antiquity but her performance was well remembered. She proceeded to demonstrate how she could quickly unsnap the buttons on the front of her blouse and replace them with a different color or style. She was good at it. In fact, she had to repeat her demonstration several times for the benefit of the mostly male audience (remember this was 1944 before TV and the ban on cleavage.) No one remembered whether she changed her earrings or not.

That night the sale of stock was completed. The records of that initial sale show 540 shares sold with the balance to be held in "treasury stock," to be held by Williams. The date of that stock sale was April 4, 1944. While most of the stock was sold on that date there were other sales that followed as news of the new venture spread. Later there were some suggestion that Williams and Zilson even had sold some of their own stock "to satisfy the demand." Some viewed this with skepticism!

Since there was no organization at this point, there was no secretary and the records are a bit sketchy. Williams repeated his statement that he wanted nothing to do with the management because "I don't know how to run a company." He did, however, agree to remain on the sales staff as a representative.

Thus the St. Paul Button Factory was begun.



A few local men agreed to "assist" getting things started but no one stepped forward or was drafted to "run" the operation. Just to keep things alive Williams was "appointed" to get the project going.

The factory was set up in a business building that had been the theatre. A variety of buttons, snaps, business forms and other materials were ordered. Tables were built as workstations.

Advertising was begun with the headquarters in Indianapolis and the factory in St. Paul. Display cards were produced showing the various styles and colors available. Wholesale and retail prices

continued on next page

were established with little regard, or knowledge of production expenses. Sales representatives were set up in Indiana, Virginia, Tenn. And other places. The factory was producing products as early as Aug. 1944. Orders streamed in and the Button Factory was a busy place.

For a time business appeared to be booming with orders being shipped to potential sales people. Most of these orders were sent on credit with the option of returning unsold buttons for exchange. The cards of finished buttons were modestly priced, and stockholders of record were granted a 10% discount. Records were shown for orders as late as Oct. 1944.

In the fall of 1944 there were rumors that Williams and Zilson were actively trying to sell their stock - even at a substantial discount. The treasurer's statement reported an inventory of \$3,000 worth of buttons on hand "ready for sale," \$500 invested in equipment, \$500 in accounts receivable and bills payable of \$1,500. Some people were still optimistic but beginning to ask questions.

Williams, true to his avowed early statements was proving that, indeed, he didn't "know how to run a business." Production was at a standstill and the building was closed much of the time. There were, however, numerous keys to the "factory."

By this time, late fall of 1944, it became obvious that if the Button Factory was to continue it was up to the local stockholders to take control. This was a decision long overdue. There had been a few who had already shouldered most of the responsibility and these men and women had little time or energy for more.

Through the winter of 1944-45 things came to a virtual halt. The building was idle. The remaining inventory and equipment was presumably inside. There were rumors of some items being removed without authorization. No one was accountable.

A final entry was found on the back page of an otherwise empty sales book. The note, dated Oct. 12, 1945 read "returned to store room, mdse listed below to pay balance owed me." Following this was a list of "approximately 15 dozen cards of buttons and earrings, plus two electric motors, belts, pulleys, light bulbs, oil cans, paper solder, etc."

And the St. Paul Snap On Button Company ends with that "unsigned" cryptic note.
Who was Mr. Williams? Who was Mr. Zilson?

J. H. Wiley, M.D.-----Kingston, Ind

Having associated with Dr. J. G. Gilmer

In the practice of medicine and surgery would respectfully inform the public that they are prepared to treat all forms of diseases in a highly successful manner. Special attention paid to chronic diseases of all kinds and to the diseases of females. They possess unrivaled facilities for the application of electricity in its various forms. Persons suffering from the use of mercury speedily relived. Persons from long distance can be accommodated with boarding during treatment.

from 1858 *The Decatur Republican*

Drain Plow

Call on R.R. Cobb and see the drain plow. Persons wishing to purchase the plow and right to use the same can do so by calling on R.R. Cobb or James Chambers at the Store of Chambers & Co. South side of the Square in Lovett's building, Greensburg.
(1858 *The Decatur Republican*)

Fact

(from "*The Indiana Book of Records, Firsts and Fascinating Facts*" by Fred D. Cavinder)
The first television newscaster in Indiana was Gilbert Forbes, who went on the air for Channel 6, in 1949

Acquisitions

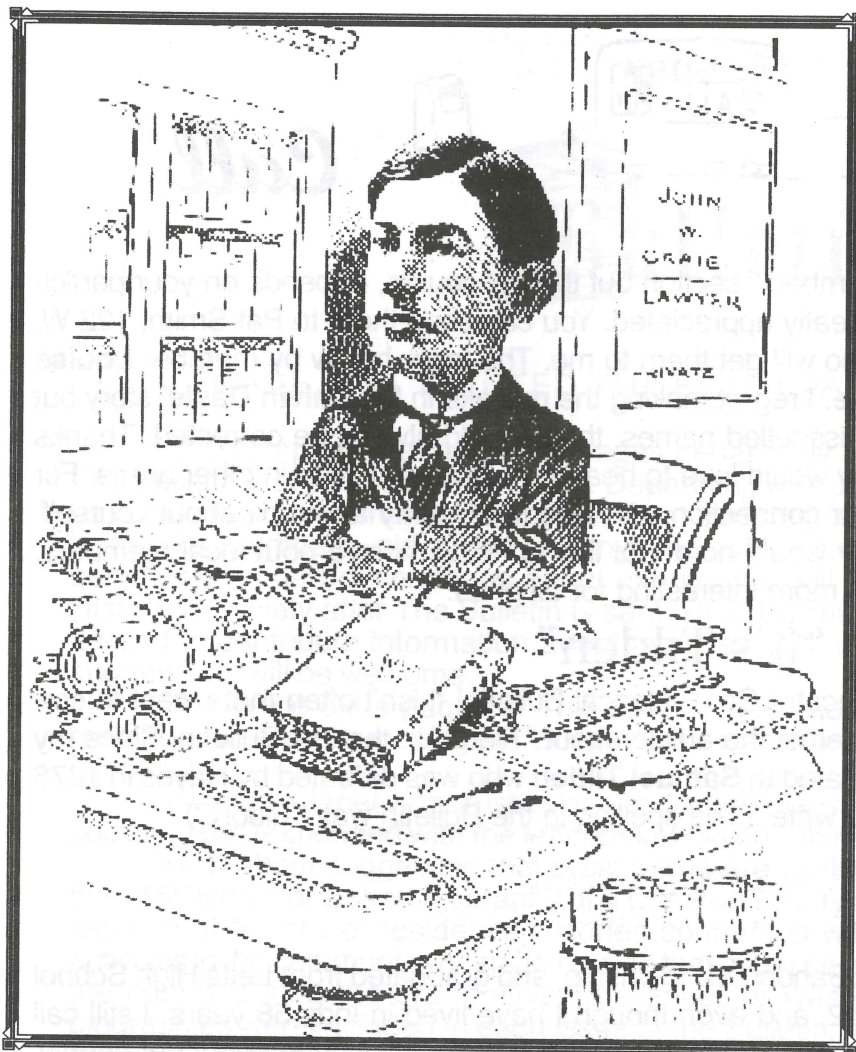
Donations to the Society

- Gertrude Brockman - a "Real Pen Work" book. This is a "Self-Instructor in Penmanship" book published in 1881 by Knowles & Maxim, Pittsfield, Mass., containing complete instructions on how to write an "elegant hand."
- Beth Beard - a German plate.
- Virginia M. Carney - a 1907 children's wool coat and bonnet and a photo of her mother holding her brother wearing the outfit.
- Mary Margaret Christman - two quilts dated 1852. These quilts have been in the Christman family since that time.
- Phyllis Doerflinger - a Decatur County poster ad for a minstrel show.
- Theresa Eckstein - 1915, 1948, 1950 and 1959 Greensburg phone books.
- Ginny Garvey - an ironstone bowl and a Riley poetry book.
- Paul and Jessie Hampton - a wooden water pipe.
- The Knights of Pythias - a 1928 picture of a Greensburg Pithian Sisters picnic.
- George Morgan - a 1930 electric hair curling machine.
- Todd Nelson - a pre-1900 courthouse gaslight lamp post.
- Wilma Schreiber - Greensburg High School Tower Tree year books for the years 1924-1941, a 1972 Decatur County scrapbook, a Tri Kappa tin jar, a picture of the original Greensburg High School.
- Kay Taylor - a picture of the Sandusky basketball team.
- The Greensburg - Decatur County Library Board - Two scrapbooks titled "a look at Old Greensburg and The Powner Family.
- Mabel M. Webb - newspaper clippings about Decatur County families.

Any omissions are unintentional and will be added in the next issue if they are brought to my attention.



The tallest pole constructed in Indiana is believed to have been one created in Shelbyville in 1876 by Democrats campaigning for Samuel Tilden for president and Thomas A. Hendricks, Indiana governor, for vice-president. The pole, 229 feet tall and 26 inches in diameter at the base, was made by splicing sections of hickory together. It was erected on the third try after Republicans had put up a 120-foot pole. The Democrat pole was cut up and made into canes, which were sold in December 1876, after Tilden lost the election to Rutherford B. Hayes.



Judge John W. Craig served as circuit court judge from Decatur County from 1919 until 1940.

The sketch on the left is in a soft bound loose leaf booklet that is covered with soft leather. The book has "Just For Fun" on the cover. There is no information about when it was published. It contains 27 sketches of men who were community leaders of the day.

Each sketch includes a Shakespearian quote. The quote for Judge Craig was from *Anthony and Cleopatra*; "Men's judgements are a parcel of their fortunes, and things outward do draw the inward quality after them to suffer all alike." The booklet was published around 1910.

The Election

(from April 8, 1859 Decatur Republican courtesy of

The entire Republican ticket was elected in **Washington Township**, notwithstanding the mongrel, fusion, "yaller republican" ticket put out by the Democracy. The majorities are larger than those given at any previous April election. In justice to those Republicans whose names were on the mongrel ticket we will state that they were placed there without their knowledge or consent.

The Republican ticket is elected in **Adams Township**. It can henceforth be relied on as a Republican Township.

The entire Republican ticket in **Clay Township** is elected. A greater excitement existed, so we learn, to Milford than at the Presidential election. James Manlove, the Democratic candidate for Township Trustee was very confident of success, averring that he would beat his opponent at least 40 votes. The result shows the matter in quite a different light - he wasn't elected by 7 votes. Mr. Manlove is another victim to "misplaced confidence."

The Republican ticket is elected in **Clinton Township**.

The Whole Republican ticket is elected in **Fugit Township**.

The Democratic tickets are elected in **Jackson, Sandcreek, Marion and Saltcreek townships**.

Jackson Township — Egypt???? (1859)

The southern part of **Jackson Township**, hitherto considered invincible by the Democracy, has redeemed itself from the control of old lineism. A dispute having arisen with regard to the new township law, candidates for Inspector, by both parties, were run. Moore, Rep. won over Fisher, Dem. Had the northern portion of the township organized we would have the pleasure of recording the complete triumph of the Rep. ticket in this "Egypt" of Decatur.

Mail



Call

I hope to enlarge the "Mail from Members" section but that, of course, depends on your participation. Your letters are welcome and greatly appreciated. You can send them to Pat Smith, 122 W. Sheridan, Greensburg, or to officers who will get them to me. The letter below by member **Louise Austen**, Indianapolis, is a great example. I regret making the mistake in **Dr. Calvin Davis'** story but when mistakes are made, especially misspelled names, they should always be corrected. Thanks Louise. We members who live in-county would love to hear from those who live in other areas. For example, give us a brief account of your connection with Decatur County and a bit about yourself. Those who live outside Decatur County would no doubt like to know more about local members. Just a short note will make The Bulletin more interesting for all of us.

"It's Tilden"

Dear Pat, Thanks for editing the Decatur Co. Historical Bulletin! It isn't often that I want to correct spelling but I did read with great interest the article about "Tildon" in the last Bulletin. Since my son-in-law **Stephen Tilden** is directly related to **Samuel Tilden** who was defeated by Hayes in 1876 (lost by one vote to Hayes) I decided to write. (The spelling in the Bulletin was "Tildon.")

Most Sincerely,

Louise Austen

And this from **Mabel M. Webb**

I was born and raised near Letts in Sandcreek Township, and graduated from Letts High School in 1937. I moved to Indianapolis in 1942, and even though I have lived in Indy 58 years, I still call Decatur Co. home. I dearly love to read The Bulletin with all the historical stories about our county. I was recently cleaning out closets and throwing away "stuff," when I came across my grandmother's old family bible. I had not looked in it in years. It was filled with old newspaper clippings and obituaries dating back to people who lived more than a hundred years ago in and around the Star Church neighborhood.

My grandmother was **Arminda McCoy Boicourt**, and the daughter of **Isaiah McCoy**, an early settler of Adams Township. She handed stories down to my mother about those people. One I heard so much about was Uncle **John Shellhorn**. I think you printed something about him several years ago, or at least something about the Shellhorns. Please use your own judgement what you choose to print about this, so as not to repeat the same stories, but I think if you have not printed it in the past, it is well worth reading. I would like to add a story my mother told me about Uncle John. Since he was instrumental in starting the Little Flat Rock church (The Star Church) he became very unhappy in later years with some of the members, so one day he went in and took all the church records and stacked them outside the church and burned them!

I don't know when the article about the Owens Mill was printed, but most of the things in the bible seem to date to about 1900-1912 so it may have been about then.

I thought the Decatur County Historical Society should have these clippings.

Sincerely,

Mabel M. Webb

(The clippings are wonderful and will be used in future Bulletins. Thanks Mabel!)



Bulletin

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE EXTRA PAGES IN THIS ISSUE?

The company that prints the pages generously agreed to print the extra pages of The Bulletin that you see in this issue. Depending on how well they will reproduce, we can have some pictures from time to time; most certainly we will have room for more stories written by members, old recipes - anything of interest to members. I hope to include some notices and descriptions about events that will be going on at the Indiana State Historical Society after The Bulletin is sent. Ruth Dorrel, as Decatur County Historian has agreed to contribute information about inquiries she receives, plus other material. Your suggestions will be welcome.

Within the extra pages of The Bulletin I also hope to include some material from members who are genealogists or who are researching their ancestors. I hope you will contribute.

I wrote to Janet Armbrust asking for suggestions. Janet is a lifetime member of our society. She responded with the letter below which I think spells it out clearly.

How about suggesting that people who are working genealogists submit not more than 150 words of a short biography of a Decatur County ancestor or ancestress, giving the location of his or her residence, stories connected with his or her occupation, special activities in the community, or anything else that might be interesting, historically, about life in the county during the era in which the ancestor was living there. If one or two such biographies were included in each issue of the Bulletin, it could make for some interesting reading,. Perhaps you would allow a few short queries on that page of the Bulletin, referring only to Decatur County people.

I belong to the Grant County (KY) Historical Society, and their bulletin includes one or two brief family genealogies in each issue. I'm not sure that a genealogy, per se, is really appropriate. I'd much rather see a biography in the setting of the time during which the ancestor was living.

It takes more effort to write a biography than to list people, dates and places, but (would be more interesting to read). When I wrote my books I included biographies, but they were limited in scope for obvious reasons of space. Were I to write a biography of my grandparents, great-grandparents, etc., I would add "little bits and pieces" from newspaper personals, as well as incorporate actual historical events (local ones in particular) to put my ancestors into perspective.

Sincerely, Janet Armbrust

Note:

Janet lives in Washington State and is the author of several books, including "Love is Love Forevermore" and "A Gathering of Ketchum Kindred." She is the daughter of Richard Norman and Leah Braden Ketchum, both natives of Decatur County.

Let us get to know you better by writing a few lines about yourself or a member of your family.

STATE EVENTS

Treasures from The Past

Adult education programs offered two Thursdays per month during the summer from 2-2:30 p.m. Programs are presented by Society staff, highlighting items from the IHS collections and may include audio/video presentations, guest lecturers, or group discussion. Free of charge.

Programs include:

August 17: Conservations of Paper Materials

August 24: World War II Manuscripts

Call 317- 232-1882 for more information or to make reservation for one or both.

The "Hoosier History Makers"

exhibition includes a variety of different areas with several videos and countless hands-on activities: The Indiana Frontier. This section provides a glimpse into the lifestyles of the Hoosier state's original frontiersmen and women. A Tower Percussion Pistol, an oil lamp, a traveling inkstand, and a powder horn are some of the objects that can be found in an immigrant's trunk before they embark on a journey of discovery.

INDIANA - Learn about the original inhabitants of Indiana such as the Miami and Piankashaw Indians as well as the treaties that impacted their lives. The careers of great Native American leaders like Tecumseh are also highlighted. Also on display are the tools and weapons - knives, hatchets, and muskets - that the tribes needed for survival.

High Flying Hoosiers Study the trials and tribulations of Indiana's first flyers from Amelia Earhart, who taught at Purdue University, to David Wolfe, a Hoosier who spent 119 days on Russia's Mir space station. Other famous flyers on display are Howard Casterline and a giant photo of his airplane stuck in a tree in Blackford County.

Hoosiers in the Spotlight - Sports have always been an important part of life in Indiana, as proven by John Bartlow Martin's statement: "Hoosiers say: 'First you put two peach baskets on posts; then you build your high school around them.'" Read the story of basketball great Oscar Robertson or baseball players such as Don Mattingly, Carl Erskine, and Gil Hodges. See an original program from the Fort Wayne Daisies of the first women's professional baseball league as well as the stories of many other famous Hoosier athletes.

Hoosier Entrepreneurs - Real life rags-to-riches stories such as that of Madam C.J. Walker are on display in this area. Walker began as a washerwoman, but with an investment of \$1.50, created a business empire in cosmetics that made her a leader in the African-American community. Or read about Richard Gatling, inventor of the predecessor to the machine gun, the Gatling Gun.

First North-South Civil War Battle

A capacity crowd-many had to be turned away at the door- was on hand in the N. Decatur gym as S. Decatur nipped the host N. Decatur team 48-47. This was the first game between the first year S. Decatur Cougars and the second year N. Decatur Chargers. North led 38-25 late in the third quarter, when South went into a press that forced bad passes by the Chargers. In the final period North went into a weave in an effort to break the tenacious man-to-man press.

In about a six minute time span South outscored the Chargers 16-0 to take a 41-38 lead with about four minutes remaining. South opened their lead to 48-41 with about a minute to play. but North rallied late to pull within 48-47 but time ran out with South in possession of the ball.

(from **Jack Poore's** "Decatur Co. Boys Basketball Consolidation Years 1968-1997")

I regret to say, and certainly embarrassed to say, that when I switched my computer from one room to another I temporarily misplaced my copy of "Vurse Ur Wurse" by our mystery poet. I will surely find it for the next Bulletin. In the meantime, here is another by the same poet:

Ode to Peanut Butter

Depression days when we were wed
Our hearts were all a flutter
The times were hard, but we got by
On bread and peanut better.

Our boys were born and 'fore they'd walk
The first words that they'd utter
As they were learning how to talk
were "bread and peanut butter."

When they were young and came from school
The house was in a clutter
But all they wanted, as a rule
Was "bread and peanut butter."

The family's gone. They're out and grown
I still hear my good wife mutter
"I'll feed my grandkids like my own
On bread and peanut butter."

Well, now we're old, our pleasures few
And Mostly we just putter
And all these old gums can chew
is "bread and peanut butter."
Mystery Poet

FACTS

The first pipe organ installed in a church in Indiana is believed to be that put in the Moravian Chapel at Hope, dedicated in 1837. The fate of the organ is unknown; only a pipe from it survives.

The oldest operating soda fountains in Indiana are those in Zaharako's ice cream parlor in Columbus; they were purchased at the 1905 St. Louis World Exposition and installed in the business, now operated by Manuel and Lewie Zaharako.

(from "The Indiana Book of Records, First and Fascinating Facts by Fred. D. Cavinder.") The book was published in 1985. No guarantee it's still there in 2000.

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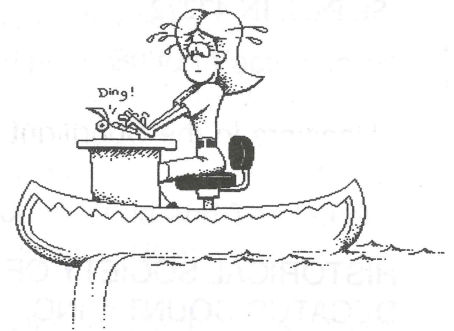
NOTICE

Deadline

March 15, 2000
June 15, 2000
Sept. 15, 2000
Dec. 15, 2000

Date mailed

April 30, 2000
July 30, 2000
Oct. 30, 2000
Jan. 30, 2001



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P.O. Box 163 Greensburg, IN 47240

Due **January 1** of each year: **Membership:** single - \$10: **Couple** - \$15: **Contributing** - \$30

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The Bulletin

The Historical Society of Decatur County

Vol. 7 No 12

October 2000

Greensburg, Indiana

HISTORIC DAY TRIP

(This is being written before the trip. Next Bulletin will have a report of the highlights.)

The Decatur County Historical Society sponsored a day trip to the Falls of the Ohio State Park at Jeffersonville and to Locust Grove in Louisville October 14, 2000.

The Star of Indiana luxury coach left at 8 a.m. and return around 6 p.m. The fee included admission to the Interpretive Centers. Lunch was at the King Fish Restaurant on the Indiana bank of the Ohio River overlooking the Louisville skyline.

The Falls of the Ohio State Park contains a coral reef of great geological importance. It is one of the world's few exposed formation from the Devonian Era, a time when terrestrial forms were beginning to evolve from marine life. The fossil bed contains more than 500 species of coral and pre-historic ocean life that are at least 400 million years old. Walking on it could be compared to walking on an ocean bottom today.

George Croghan and his wife Lucy Clark Croghan built Locust Grove in 1790. It became the last home of George Rogers Clark, the Revolutionary War hero, in 1809 and is where he died in 1818. He was buried on the property for 60 years until ownership changed hands and he was moved to Cave Hill Cemetery.

The plantation includes the restored Georgian mansion, eight outbuildings and an 18th century border garden.

Audio and video presentations were given on the bus.

The program committee, chaired by Joe Westhafer, arranged for the tour.

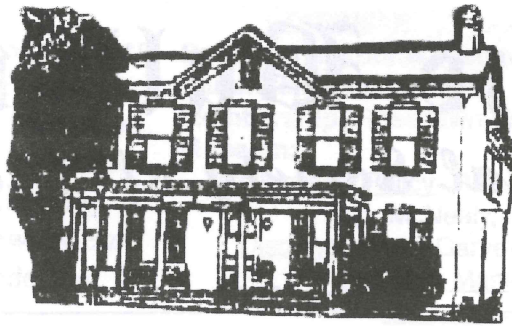
Welcome new members:

BOB AND KATY MEEK
JUNE SCHLEMMER
LOIS CAROL MCCORMACK
SUSANNE MOELLER
PATRICIA COCHRAN
JIM AND JINKS MILLER
TERESA VOLK

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Page 10 - State News; St. Mary's honor roll for Feb. 1934
Page 11 - Lewis A. Harding sketch; Deadlines, Membership blank

Museum News



*by President
Diana
Springmier*

Our museum has been so busy that there has been little time to dust off the tabletops before another exhibit is ready to be put in place by the museum display committee.

On the heels of 800 visitors - and all time high for one exhibit - viewing the professionally presented wedding gowns on loan from Decatur County residents and friends of the museum, Helen Hamilton and her committee of Ginny Garvey and Ruth Cash offered the community a quite different display.

Citizens were taken back to the days of the neighborhood full service filling station with an exhibit of memorabilia from former local stations McClintic's Mobil, Shortemeyer's Standard and Davis Brothers. A life-size for real Standard Oil gas tank, crowned with its kingly red and white globe, greeted guests in the downstairs hall. At a Sunday afternoon open house, Society member Ruth McClintic and her son Richard reminisced about the time when full service was the norm. Period costumes from the 40s to the 80s added to the ambience of the unique offering.

The Society has been fortunate to receive another Indiana Heritage Research Grant funded by the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Humanities Council. Alice Rust, after just finishing the work for the IHRG grant for the museum's textiles, has agreed to be the chief researcher for this latest project. The museum's furnishings will be identified and catalogued. Alice had the assistance of Mr. Lebo's Greensburg High School woodworking class. The students measured the furniture, noted its location in the rooms and prepared it for marking. The class was learning about its heritage while having fun.

The students very carefully worked around the September-October exhibit of Crazy Quilts draped on every table, chair and sofa on the first floor. Crazy Quilt quilts more than 100 years old, Crazy Quilt vests, Crazy Quilt pillows - all with a history of their place in the family who loaned them to the museum - were in evidence. Sarah Picker donated her time to one weekend's opening, embroidering stitches that are used in the varied quilt designs.

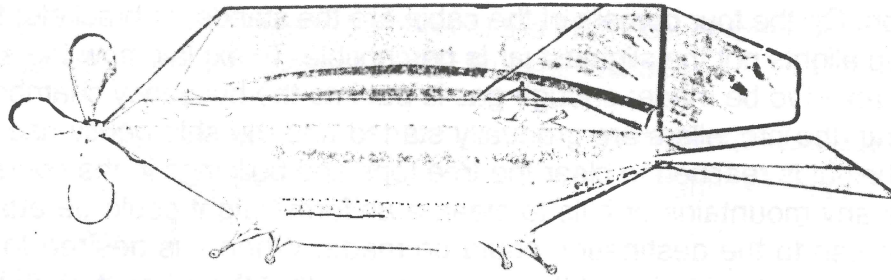
The United Fund Day of Caring provided a welcome fall volunteer day by 15 employees of the Decatur County Memorial Hospital. They worked on projects needing attention: scraping and painting the side porch and shutters, painting a ceiling to floor recently constructed storage cabinet for the textiles on the second floor. All regular museum volunteers are grateful for this gift of service.

A Christmas Open House on a December Sunday is in the planning stage. Watch the Greensburg Daily News and also Pat's Daily Wednesday columns for an announcement. All involved at this printing of the Bulletin have been so busy they haven't had time to finalize December's exhibits. In fact, Ginny Garvey, chairman of displays, is going on a well-deserved antiquing trip to Europe with friend and Society member Nancy Gilliland before returning to the Christmas plans.

The Society's museum volunteers appreciate the support given by members and the community. Keep visiting, and we'll be inspired to continue offering exhibits well worth your time.

-DID YOU KNOW?

The citrus soda 7-UP was created in 1929. "7" was selected because the original containers were 7 ounces. "UP" indicated the direction of the bubbles. (from the Internet via member Charles Riddle)



The Pennington Air Ship as drawn for the Scientific American Magazine (Mar. 7, 1891)

Going through some papers **Calvin Davis** found an article about the Airship Pennington in a March 7, 1891 Scientific American magazine cited in his 1969 article on the 1890 center of Population. "I had never heard of the Airship Pennington," he said, "and wonder if anyone in the county have any oral traditions about **E. J. Pennington** who built it. Certainly his story is of some importance in the early history of flying even if his airship did not work! "Below is a brief biography of Pennington and parts from the article. Perhaps you can add to the story? (The drawing which accompanied the article was the best I could do for the Bulletin.)

Genealogical and Biographical Record of Decatur County, Eli Pennington, M.D. "...In 1851 he laid out the town of New Pennington, which has been known by his name since 1860. Dr. Pennington married Miss Mary Anna Barclay... Dr. and Mrs. Pennington have adopted, reared and educated three boys...(One of the three) was Edward J. Pennington, then nine years old, and he was a member of their family until he was 19 years of age, being reared and educated under their care and as their own son. Of an inventive turn of mind, he became famous as the inventor of an air-ship which was exhibited with success at Chicago and elsewhere, a few years ago, and attracted much attention from scientists and the public. Later he went to England and there invented a rapid-fire gun which has yielded him a goodly financial reward..."

From Scientific American article: The inventor, Mr. E. J. Pennington of Mt. Carmel, Ill., says: "The main part of the machine is the buoyancy chamber. This in shape is an oblated spheroid, being large at the center and tapering symmetrically to a point at either end, and looks like a huge cigar. On the inside of this chamber are two compartments; one is a receptacle for gas and the other is used as an engine room. The engine that occupies this room is a three-cylinder rotary and propels the large wheel in front of the ship. The fuel that supplies this engine is gas and is fed direct. The main shaft on this engine is hollow, and the large propeller is keyed directly on to it. This shaft is made hollow to allow the air to pass through it in the cylinders to keep them cool. On the top of the buoyancy chamber is placed the sail. This extends its full length and can be manipulated so that the currents will act to propel the ship as it does a sailing vessel in water. Attached to this sail is the rudder that guides the ship either to the right or left, and underneath this rudder is the tail; this tail is patterned after a bird's tail, and is used to raise or lower the ship independent of the propeller wheels at the sides. On the sides of the chamber are placed the wings. These wings are so made that when the ship is descending they improvise themselves into parachutes, which makes the descent gradual. On each of these wings are placed two propeller wheels, for raising and lowering the ship.

continued on next page

(continued from page 3)

Underneath the chamber is hung the cabin, and underneath the cabin are placed the storage batteries. The weight of these batteries makes them useful for ballast, and are used to keep the ship in the proper position. On the four corners of the cabin are the stands, or brackets; these are cushioned, and when the ship alights not the slightest jar is perceptible. To explain how the ship is started, we will suppose a trip is about to be made; enough gas is put into the buoyancy chamber to make the whole ship weigh nothing, the propellers are gradually started and the ship gently rises from the surface of the earth until a height is reached to clear the tree tops and buildings in the course to be traveled.

If there were any mountains or hills to clear, a uniform height could be attained at the start, so that a straight course to the destination could be made. When it is desired to make a landing the ship's bow is headed to the wind, and the rudder set so that the current of air will place the ship at the desired point, the same way that a landing is made by a steamboat. The whole construction being of aluminum makes it lighter and stronger than any other material; that is, it will take less gas to raise it, and the great tensile strength of this metal will allow it to be rolled thinner than silk and still retain as much strength as steel three times as thick. The gas engine and all other mechanical devices on this ship are patented, which gives the company the exclusive benefit of their use for a long time."

The article states: In the popular belief that flying machine is next to an accomplished fact, and no very great surprise probably would be occasioned if the announcement were to be made tomorrow that a line of air ships had commended to run between Chicago and New York. We are sorry, however, to be obliged to dash the hopes of a confiding public by the cold, unfeeling statement that the art of flying in the air by mankind has not been learned nor the means thereto invented. It is said to be interesting to see this cigar balloon move (at the exposition building in Chicago); but as a demonstration of anything new or promising in the way of aerial navigation it is without value.

(The first recorded flight in a steerable airship was in September, 1882, by French inventor Henri Giffard. Other attempts followed, encouraged by the invention in 1886 of a functioning gasoline engine. Without a power source to drive the propellers, directed flight is not possible. On July 2, 1900, von Zeppelin of Germany built and flew the world's first practical rigid airship. The Hindenberg Air Disaster, the first such event to be broadcast live, crashed May 6, 1937.)

Burney Band's First Appearance

The first uniformed band in the history of the Burney school made its initial appearance Saturday evening, February 18, 1950, at the Burney-Sunman high school basketball game in the St. Paul gymnasium.

The band furnished entertainment preceding each game and at the intermissions.

The 52 members of the group wore new royal purple capes, lined with white, and royal purple overseas caps with white piping and a gold lyre. White skirts and waists completed the girls' uniforms and white trousers and white shirts completed the boys' uniforms.

(from "Personals" in February 16, 1950 issue of Greensburg Daily News)

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Forkert and daughter, Ruth, were visitors in Indianapolis today.

Thomas Wright, Roy Beeson, Clinton Nolte, James Conwell and Robert Rhodes attended a dinner meeting of the Southeastern Drug Club held Wednesday evening at the Dillsboro health resort.

The following ladies were at Madison Feb. 15 and attended a home economics meeting at the proving found club house guests of Mrs. Forrest Armstrong, president of that club and a former resident of Letts: Mesdames Elias Jackson, Marshall Taylor, Clarence Black, Noel Anderson, Cecil Gorbett, Charles Wooten, Herschel Webb, Russell Foster of Letts, Shirley Williams and Margaret Conwell of Westport.

Acquisitions

The following individuals have made donations to the Historical Society of Decatur County by August 30, 2000. (List supplied by Museum Curator Russell Wilhoit.)

Marlin C. Donnell
Mrs. Francis Clark
Dr. David Weigel
Mrs. Maelo Rhodes
Pat Benge
Willa Beeson Ford
Greensburg Public Library
Mrs. John Williams
Melissa Cowan

Antiques on Broadway
Betty Shumaker
Eunice King
Delores Wellman
Bill Ford
Patricia Cochran
Tom Barker
Mr. and Mrs. Don Meyer
William and Harriet Fisher

Any omissions are unintentional and will be added in the next issue if they are brought to my attention.

Marilyn Christian's Gift

Marilyn Christian, owner of Antiques On Broadway, in the old YMCA has donated a portrait of one of the Shriver brothers who were so prominent in the Y sports activities. It was painted by John Ford who was a sign painter and artist in our county. It can be seen on our museum.

Paul (Pete) Shriver graduated from Greensburg High School in 1932 and was serving as director of the physical department of the Y when he enlisted in the service. He was killed in December 1942 while serving as a rear gunner in a B-24 Flying Fortress in the South Pacific.

His brother, Jack, was a 1937 graduate of GHS and also died during World War II when his plane crashed while on a training flight in Kansas after participating in 16 battles as a pilot of a B-17 bomber.

The brothers were outstanding athletes and Paul was a member of one of the most successful volleyball teams in the nation during the 1930s. He was one of four from Decatur County named All American. Shriver Field in Greensburg is named for the Shriver brothers.

Pete and Jack were sons of John and Ruth Shriver. Their sisters were Argel Cunningham, Dorothy Wilson and Virginia Stewart who was an administrative assistant in the U.S. Marine Corp.

Marilyn found the portrait among some old items in the attic after she purchased the Y building. She is interested in our history and is now trying to build a display of YMCA pictures. She needs some help in finding pictures with a Y connection. She will make copies of any photos anyone brings in and return them while you wait. The pictures can be of any person or event having to do with the old Y building, activities, and group photos of Y members.

This will be an eye-catching display of special interest to all residents of our county. Included in the display will be a board with the names of Y members who served in World War II. Both the board and the portrait were on display at the Y during and after World War II.

Only boys and men could be members until it was voted that the pool could be used by girls and women in 1926, and badminton classes were available for females in 1942 as membership declined during and after World War II.

The Decatur County YMCA opened December 18, 1915 and had a three day dedication December 16, 17, 18 and 19, 1915. The building had 17 rooms in which men could live for a charge of \$1.50 to \$3. per week or visitors could stay overnight. (Also read Harold Stier's letter about Shriver Field on pg. 8.)

INVESTIGATION UNCOVERS UNUSUAL PATTERN OF ACHIEVERS

by Melissa Cowan

As I was doing research on John Wilder I kept seeing familiar-sounding names in the lineage of Wilder's wife – Martha Stewart Wilder. My curiosity was really peaked when Pat Smith wrote a series of articles in the Greensburg Daily News about Mary Stewart Carey and her involvement with Orchard Country Day School, the Children's Museum and Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

I recognized some of the names in Mrs. Smith's column that I had continually come across from my Wilder research. So I had to investigate! Well, I turned up more than was expected! Mrs. Carey's parents were Daniel Stewart and Martha Stewart Wilder, sooooo. Mrs. Wilder was Mrs. Carey's aunt!

I noticed Mrs. Carey's mother's maiden name was "Tarkington" so, just on a whim, checked out the Tarkington lineage on the LDS at the Indiana State Library. Sure enough, there was a connection with the famed Tarkington names.

It seems that the father of Booth Tarkington, the famed author, was a brother to Martha Tarkington Stewart, which makes Mary Stewart Carey and Booth Tarkington first cousins.

Now, Mrs. Carey's grandparents were Silas Stewart and Mary Hendricks Stewart, and Mary Hendricks' father was Thomas Hendricks, brother to John Hendricks, father of Thomas A. Hendricks, who served the State of Indiana in various political positions and became Vice-President of the United States under President Grover Cleveland.

As I am sure most of you know, the Hendricks and Stewart families settled what is now Greensburg and named it for (Mrs. Hendricks') hometown of Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

The point of this little story is to show what achievers these families were: The Stewart, the Hendricks, the Tarkington and the the Wilder families were and what contributions they made in their respective communities, their state, their country and to mankind in general. There are many stories written about all of these people; I encourage you to read them and share the stories with the young people by suggesting one of the topics for a school paper or volunteer to speak to a history class at a school. Or perhaps you would enjoy making up a trivia game for a teacher to use in the classroom. That is what makes history come alive and what makes it interesting.

I started a Jr. Historical Society chapter at Milroy last year and when we went to Indiana History Day 2000 and the Jr. Historical State Convention, the students came home with first place trophies (four in all), a second place trophy, two third places, the DNR state award for historical preservation, and the state award for Young Patriots. Their projects were on Rush County or historical happenings with Rush County connections. They were excited and we are looking forward to this year and working on projects for the 2001 state convention.

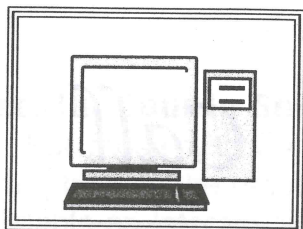
Melissa Cowen's Suggested Reading (*location in bold*)

John S. Winchester (1819 - 1898)
Papers 1863 - 1895)
Methodist Episcopal minister
Greensburg, Decatur Co. area
1942-1898
(B - 385 - Indiana State Library)
James M. Woodfill (b/ 1854)
owned a men's clothing store in
Greensburg 1889/1897. Collection
is store's account books

(B - 390 Indiana State Library)
Oscar G. Miller (1866/1957)
Papers (1824/1968)
Teacher of Greensburg (1880s)
Attorney in Greensburg
(1891/1957)
Mayor of Greensburg (1902)
papers of wife, Clara Lambert
Miller (diaries)
Many personal papers **(B-248 ISL)**

Samuel Williams (1786/1859)
papers (1817/1897)
Greensburg resident 1851/59
Surveyor, general (1815/1845) for
lands NW of Ohio (including 1st
land grants in SE Ind)
(A-400 Ind. Historical Society)
Wm. C. Patton diaries/37th Ind
Reg. Civil War **(A-294 IHS)**
James Gavin (1830/1873) papers
(1872/73) A - 119 IHS)

Would General Foley believe this?



Russell Wilhoit noticed that there was recently a bid for a local man's autograph on the eBay Internet auction site. Under "Collectibles-Militaria:Pre Civil War" was a picture of the autograph of Indiana State Militia Commander 1852 J. Foley." When Russell noticed it the bid was \$24.99. I don't know the final bid.

The description with the signature was: "Foley, James Bradford, cut signature, Representative from Indiana, appointed commander of the Fourth Brigade of State militia in 1852. Document undated; size: 1 1/4 by 2 1/2 inches. Condition: Good, pencil notes on part of document made by some autograph collector.

Biographical Information, Foley, James Bradford, a Representative from Indiana; born near Dover, Mason County, Ky., October 18, 1807; received a limited schooling; employed on a flatboat on the Mississippi River in 1823; moved to Greensburg, Ind., in 1834; engaged in mercantile pursuits 1834-1837, and afterwards in farming; treasurer of Decatur County 1841-1843; member of the State constitutional convention in 1850; appointed commander of the Fourth Brigade of State militia in 1852; elected as a Democrat to the Thirty-fifth Congress (March 4, 1857 – March 3, 1859); resumed agricultural pursuits in Decatur County; died in Greensburg, Ind., December 5, 1886; interment in South Park Cemetery."

You can read the biography of General Foley on pages 568-570 in Harding's 1915 history. A picture of him is included with the bio. His children were Mary Mansfield, Mary Zoller, Elizabeth Payne, John J., Alexander A and William O. Foley.

OLD LANDMARK FALLS FROM AGE

OWENS MILL, ABANDONED 24 YEARS AGO, COLLAPSES ALONG FLATROCK RIVER NEAR ST. PAUL

LAST ONE IN SECTION

The old Owens mill on Flatrock river, near here, crumbled from age and fell down last night. The mill is the last of these old landmarks in this section. It was abandoned about 24 years ago. The structure was erected by Milligan Owens who died years ago. The mill was operated by water power. Laborers who dug the mill race years ago were paid 37 1/2 cents a day. At that time they paid 37 1/2 cents for a pair of linen trousers.

In speaking of the work in digging the mill race, Uncle Isaiah McCoy said that one Saturday afternoon, after a hard day's work, Mr. Owens, who was building the mill said: "Boys, I see you are doing so well that I feel that I can afford to pay you 50 cents a day, beginning Monday, so be 'round early." Mr. McCoy said the men were so overjoyed at the "large" increase that most of them were on hand at 3 o'clock Monday morning with shovels in hand. — St. Paul Telegram

The year the above was published is unknown. It was in some copies of clippings sent by Mabel M. Webb of Indianapolis.



Sweet Cider Pie



1 cup sugar

6 tbsp. flour

2 cups apple cider

1/2 cup water

2 eggs

4 tbsp. sugar

Mix sugar with flour. Add cider, water and 2 well beaten egg yolks. Cook until thick and pour into baked pie crust. Use 2 egg whites and 4 table-spoons of sugar for meringue and brown. (Lincoln Heritage Trail Cook Book)

Mail



Call

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As editor of the Bulletin I could use a bit of help from members.

With only a few names and telephone numbers of volunteers, I could call two or three members each quarter to help one afternoon, probably in the museum in order to avoid the very willing assistance of our two dogs. With enough names, no one person would have to help more than once a year. Volunteers could help put the pages together and in order, staple and fold each Bulletin, put on mailing labels, put scotch tape or other material on to hold it together (a requirement for postal machines).

I will help with the above, continue making decisions about what text will interest the most members, type in the contents, take the pages to the printer, pick them from the printer, print out the labels, fill out the postal form, and take them to the post office for mailing meeting the post office specifications for bulk mailing.

Will you be a volunteer for this, with luck not more than one afternoon a year, to help put the Bulletin together? If so, please call me at 663-3418.

And – plan to write something for the genealogy page or other pages. Remember that history is being made as we speak and is definitely not limited to “long, long ago.”

A Football Memory of a touchdown and Shriver Field

As the football season approaches I am reminded that football was not always a part of Greensburg High School's athletic program.

After a lapse of 48 years the Pirates again fielded a football team in 1947 and Jack Spencer was hired as coach. Not having a field, home games were played in Columbus for the first two years. Fans who could not make the trip could listen on Columbus radio.

Finally in the third year Shriver Field was ready. It was located on South Monfort Street so players walked about 10 blocks to the gym, dressed, and rode a flat bed truck to the south end of town for practice and games. The dedication game was played on Sept. 23, 1949 and the Pirates lost to Rushville 7 - 23.

I had the good fortune to score the only Pirate touchdown on an 80 yard kick-off return, the first on Shriver Field. As I recall it was the only one of my lackluster career.

Harold Stier, Cincinnati

A member's memory of a famous Decatur County native

(After a column in the Daily News about Decatur County's Rose McConnell, Louisiana's Huey Long's wife and a memory of Elizabeth Robbins Davis).

My father was a brother to Elizabeth Davis. We lived next door to the Center of Population monument near Letts. I remember the very day when I was 7 years old in 1936 when Rose Long came to our house to visit my father and I sat on her lap. She had a beautiful silk dress on. My father told me this was a famous person and always remember this day. It is kind of an outstanding thing to remember.

Sometime I will write about the morning in Indianapolis in front of the Claypool Hotel when I had a long talk with John F. Kennedy who became President two months later. (Do it Roy!)

Sincerely, **Roy Todd Robbins**, Florida (p.s. H. C. Miller was my great grandfather.

Genealogy

Decatur County Genealogy on Internet

For those with an interest in tracing their family history, the resources that have become available on Internet over the past three or four years are truly formidable. Many who have reached an impasse in discovering roots beyond their grandparents are finding that the databases and assistance now freely accessible have enabled them to explore much further than previously conceivable.

The Decatur County Genealogy website is located at

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~indecatu/indecatu.html> and it serves as a gateway both to Decatur County resources and to the wealth of genealogical materials now available through Internet. It is part of a national network of county genealogical websites loosely affiliated as USGenWeb, which was begun in 1996 and now covers the entire US and many other countries.

Among the Decatur County materials on the website are family records and obituaries, as well as the first fruits of a project to transcribe cemetery and census records. It is also possible to post queries about your own families in Decatur County and to search the website for references to names of interest.

We are always eager to recruit volunteers in Decatur County who might occasionally be willing to look up information in county records and cemeteries or to help transcribe records. For those who do not have personal access to Internet, the Greensburg/Decatur County Library has several computers with direct links to the county genealogical website. Have a look!

John Ballard john.ballard@anu.edu.au

Reminiscences of the late "Uncle John" Shelhorn as told by himself for the last time in September 1912. (John Shelhorn: June 25, 1825, / Dec. 28, 1912) from paper sent by **Mabel Webb**.

When his parents first came to Decatur County in 1820 they bought 17 80-acre tracts in Rush and Decatur counties. They sold part of

the land and built the old flour mill that formerly stood at Downeyville. The mill was owned by Flyre & White and later by Mr. Banta. The mill has been gone for a number of years and is no longer a landmark. His parents built a double house out of walnut logs on the farm now owned by John Shelhorn. The old shop that stood at the brow of the hill for so many years was an attachment to this house and it was in this part Uncle John was born. There was no floor in the main part of the building until Uncle John was 12 years old. The children slept upstairs and could stick their fingers in the cracks between the weatherboards.

There were no saw mills to make boards. They made ash slabs four inches thick and they were called puncheon and laid these for floors. Doors were made of the same materials. They had no nails to fasten the shingles on the house but cut long poles to lay on top of the shingles to hold them down. They made hinges out of wood and had wooden door latches with a string attachment on the outside to raise the latch.

Uncle John said, "They never put me to work on the farm until I was 10 years old. Louis and I went out in the field to hoe corn and every time I would stop and look across the field I would think 'when I get over there a little farther it will not be so bad.'" He never forgot the first day's work and all through life he would look forward and think it will be better farther on.

He raised his first crop of corn for himself when he was 22 years of age. That year he fed 80 head of hogs, shipped them part way to Cincinnati, drove them the rest of the way. Humphry Stevens shipped his hogs at the same time. He sold his hogs for \$300 net – hired them killed. When they returned home they took boat to Madison then the RR to Shelbyville and from there they walked home.

This is an example of stories you could tell about your family in this section. Modern or old memories – all are welcome and you know it's a good idea to record them and share with the members.

STATE EVENTS

If you would like to become a member of the Indiana Historical Society. The categories for membership are:

Student, \$10 (under 25 years old)

Annual, \$30

Sustaining, \$50 (also includes listing in IHS annual report)

You may pay by credit card (Visa or MasterCard), use the IHS's toll-free number at 1-800-IHS-1830. If paying by check you should call the Membership Department at (317) 232-1874 and ask for a membership form. The address is: Indiana Historical Society, PO Box 664118, Indianapolis, IN 46266-4118. Members automatically receive:

10% to 20% discount on merchandise sold in the Society's History Market Gift Shop, mail order catalog and online store

Bimonthly newsletter

The Bridge, which reports on IHS activities

IHS Annual Report (join as a Sustaining Member, and your name will be listed in the Annual Report)

Substantial prepublication discounts on new Society books along with a 20 percent discount on the Society's previous publications and many from Indiana University Press

Invitations to educational programs, exhibition openings, book signings and other activities at the Society's headquarters and around the state

Complimentary benefits at historic sites and museums in more than 40 states through the Time Travelers program, just by showing your Indiana Historical Society membership card.

Members also choose to receive any or all of the following quarterly periodicals:

Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History, the Society's popular history magazine focusing on the people, places, and events of the 19th state's past

The Hoosier Genealogist, a publication devoted to providing information on Indiana family history

Black History News & Notes, which includes articles on the political, social, and cultural history of Hoosier African Americans

Indiana Magazine of History, a scholarly journal edited and published by Indiana University in cooperation with the Society

Programs are ongoing. TIMESCAPE educational programs for the family are from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. one Saturday each month from September through April. These TIMESCAPES celebrate Indiana's heritage and are free. You may call (317) 232-1882 for more information. The lineup for the next few months are Historic Toys and Games November 11, Celebrating Indiana Statehood December 9, Winter Fun January 27, Raggedy Ann & Andy February 10, The Circus in Indiana March 17.

Upcoming learning opportunities include two common photographic formats, postcards and stereoviews on November 18, Digital Photography on December 16. You can have a personal consultant on November 21 or December 19 by calling for an appointment.

The names of eighth grade students on the honor roll of St. Mary's grade school for the six-week period ending in February 1934 were: Margaret Stockhuetter, Rosemary Nienaber, Ellen Harmon, Eileen Jones, Howard Ernestes, Edward Welage, Wendolin AmRhein, Rose Katherine Klene and John McWalters.

Six thirty when I arise / Alert and bright of eye /
Part of me says 'look alive' / The other part asks 'why.' (mystery poet)



LEWIS & HARDING

I think our weather man is sick
His situation's grim
The weather that he always picks
Does not agree with him.
from the mystery poet

Lewis A. Harding, sketch at left, was editor of the History of Decatur County Indiana published in 1915 and an excellent resource for local history.

He graduated from IU in political science and law and served as prosecutor of Decatur Co., member of the law firm of Osborn, Hamilton and Harding, and prosecuting attorney of the (then) Ninth judicial district.

He was recognized as a lecturer and historian. He was the author of several books including *The Preliminary Diplomacy of the Spanish-American War*, *The Call of the Hour*, and *A Few Spoken Words*.

He moved to Columbus and later to Spokane, Wash where he practiced law, and later moved to Louisiana where he taught an elocution class at a University in Louisiana. He moved to Indianapolis and practiced law there until his death at 64 in September 1944. He had twin daughters who lived in Washington State.

items for B U L L E T I N

NOTICE

Deadline

March 15, 2001

June 15, 2001

Sept. 15, 2000

Dec. 15, 2000

Date mailed

April 30, 2001

July 30, 2001

Oct. 30, 2000

Jan. 30, 2001



If your dues are due please use this form to send them to the address below.

Historical Society of Decatur County, Inc.

P.O. Box 163 Greensburg, IN 47240

Due **January 1** of each year: **Membership:** single - \$10: **Couple** - \$15: **Contributing** - \$30



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